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Parties' absence hampers dialogue on hospital's $7M loan. PAGE 3
APIL delegates start arriving for general assembly. PAGE 4

CUC emergency extended but questions arise

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial extended on Saturday his declaration of a state of emergency for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. but some lawmakers question the administration's motives for still suspending the Public Utilities Commission's regulation and oversight of CUC over planned 20-year renewable energy contracts when PUC now has a three-member quorum, among other things.

"I really hope that they're not using this emergency declaration to facilitate contract awards that should have gone through normal procurement process, especially now that we have a functioning PUC," Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Manglona was referring to Directive 2 in the governor's latest executive order dated June 16, copies of which were distributed to the Legislature only yesterday.

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A photo of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power plant in Lower Base yesterday. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial extended on Saturday for another 30 days his executive order declaring a state of emergency for CUC because of continuing financial, procurement, and hiring crises, among other things, but the emergency extension raised questions from some lawmakers.

Governor 'deeply concerned' about Obama's latest immigration policy

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Fitial

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is "deeply concerned" about the "potential for fraud" in President Barack Obama's latest immigration policy stopping the deportation of certain young illegal immigrants from American soil for a period of two years if they meet certain criteria.

"While President Obama's policy is effective immediately, it will likely take months to implement. There's no procedure to follow or form to fill out at this time. And with much still unknown the governor is deeply concerned about the potential for fraud," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune.*

Worker groups in the CNMI, however, welcome Obama's latest immigration

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Pai recuses self from OPA probe on sole-source ARRA contract award

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Pai

Public Auditor Michael Pai has recused himself from any involvement in a requested investigation into the Fitial administration's almost $400,000 sole-source ARRA management contract to former Commerce secretary Michael Ada's Integrated Professional Solutions back in October 2010.

Pai cited perception of conflict of interest in recusing himself from the Office of the Public Auditor investigation, as requested by an adopted Senate resolution in August 2011.

In a letter to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), Pai said he delegated OPA legal counsel George L. Hasselback to act on his stead "and have ultimate responsibility for the investigation, analysis, and prosecution of any wrongdoing

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OPINION METER
This week's poll:
What do you think is a reasonable rate for Internet access in the CNMI?
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INSIDE

BUSINESS

World leaders expressed relief on the eve of a G20 summit that Greek voters had stepped back from the edge and elected a government that supports painful reforms in exchange for a European Union bailout of the country's troubled economy. ➤ PAGE 13

NATION

Mitt Romney in an interview aired Sunday repeatedly refused to say that he would overturn President Barack Obama's new policy allowing some young illegal immigrants to stay in the United States. ➤ PAGE 14

FOCUS

Twenty years later, Rodney King's simple yet profound question still lingers, from the street where Trayvon Martin died all the way to the White House. ➤ PAGE 17

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Local

IN SMALL CLAIMS CASE FILED VS EX-SENATE PRESIDENT

Judge Camacho finds inexcusable failure of two attorneys to appear

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has found inexcusable the failure of two attorneys to appear at a hearing in a small claim case filed against their client—former Senate president Joseph M. Mendiola.

Camacho denied Mendiola's motion to set aside a $2,149.94 default judgment against him in the small claim filed by Leticia M. Palacios, who is a staff of Senate President Paul A. Manglona.

Camacho ruled that although Palacios would not be prejudiced by the minor delay in this case and Mendiola may have a defense, the fact that Mendiola's counsel admits to knowing of the hearing but failing to show up because one of the defendant's attorneys had a trial that day, "reflects routine carelessness or caseload management issues and does not rise to the level of excusable neglect."

According to court records, in May 2010 Palacios, a landlord, filed the small claim seeking $1,412.66 plus interest and attorney's fees for rent, utilities, and related charges incurred by her tenant, Mendiola.

On Feb. 23, 2012, Mendiola retained counsel, Loren A. Sutton and Janet H. King. The lawyers agreed between themselves that Sutton would handle appearances and King would prepare any written filings.

On Feb. 27, 2012, Mendiola and his lawyers failed to appear at the evidentiary hearing. This prompted the court to enter a default judgment.

On March 6, 2012, the former Senate president filed a motion to set aside the default judgment.

At the April 5, 2012 hearing, Sutton represented that his client was never served with the motion. Attorney Michael White, counsel for Palacios, provided a copy of the motion to Sutton. Sutton indicated he intended to file a written opposition.

Camacho

Palacios then filed a memorandum in opposition to motion to set aside default judgment. Mendiola filed a reply.

Sutton argued that the default judgment should be set aside because he (Sutton) was in trial on another matter at the time of the hearing.

Palacios countered that there is no basis to set aside the judgment.

At the May 17, 2012 motion hearing, Sutton informed the court that based on the discovery, his client, Mendiola, has a defense, namely, that he was not a tenant at the relevant time.

In his order upholding the default judgment, Camacho said Mendiola filed the motion to set aside on March 6, 2012, only eight days after default judgment was entered.

Thus, Camacho said, given the minor delay here, and no other prejudicial circumstances, Palacios has not suffered any prejudice.

On the meritorious defense issue, Camacho said Sutton represented that Mendiola does have a defense; that it was not him, but another person, who occupied the property.

Camacho said this representation was made without offering any legal support for the defense.

"Without knowing more about the facts, or the legal relationship between the parties, it is difficult to determine if that factual basis is sufficient to raise a particular defense. Thus, this factor is neutral," the judge said.

On the excusable neglect issue, Camacho said routine carelessness by counsel does not generally constitute excusable neglect.

Camacho said although a failure to appear generally is considered culpable conduct, given that Mendiola, a resident of Tinian, hired counsel, ostensibly to appear in his stead on Saipan, in equity he should not be faulted for failing to personally appear.

The judge said because Mendiola initially appeared in the action in December 2011 when the matter was held in Tinian, the failure here was clearly on the part of his attorneys.

Camacho said Mendiola's reply argues that King could not appear based on a conflict because she works at the Law Revision Commission.

Camacho said King sought a stipulated continuance of the hearing by sending an email, but no continuance was ever granted by the court.

"While the Court and the legal profession encourage professional courtesy, Mr. White was under no obligation to stipulate to a continuance," he said.

The judge noted that it is the attorney's responsibility to advocate for their client—to make all appearances, and formally request continuances from the court if necessary.

"The failure to do so in this case is not justified by simply seeking a stipulation," Camacho said, adding that King's concern that she could not appear in court based on a conflict is unfounded.

With respect to Sutton, Camacho said the lawyer was already in court on another matter, when he failed to appear for his client.

"Like, Ms. King, he (Sutton) could have easily walked over to a different court room, to ask the Court for a continuance," the judge said.

On balance, Camacho said, the inaction of counsel may be fairly characterized as routine carelessness.

OAG says defendant misinterprets the word 'report'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has filed an opposition to a motion filed by the Office of the Public Defender that questioned the Superior Court's jurisdiction over an ex-convict whose term of probation had already expired.

Assistant attorney general Darren Robinson asserted that although the court ordered defendant Raymond Saka to report to the Office of Adult Probation on Oct. 13, 2010, his probationary period did not begin until his release from jail on Nov. 9, 2010.

Therefore, Robinson pointed out, Saka's request to dismiss the government's motion to revoke the defendant's probation should be denied.

According to court records, on Oct. 13, 2010, Saka pleaded guilty to assault and battery. The judge ordered the defendant to, among other things, report to the Office of Adult Probation that same day (Oct. 13).

The court's commitment order placed the defendant on supervised probation for one year.

The court's commitment order provided that Saka was sentenced to six months in jail, all suspended except for 15 days, with credit for one day time served.

The order required Saka to report to the Department of Corrections on Oct. 25, 2010. The order stated that the defendant was to be released on Nov. 9, 2010.

Saka served 14 days in custody and was released from DOC on Nov. 9, 2010.

On Oct. 26, 2011, a probation officer made an oral motion to revoke Saka's probation. The OAG then filed a notice of revocation hearing on Dec. 5, 2011.

Assistant public defender Daniel T. Guidotti, counsel for Saka, in a motion to dismiss questioned the court's jurisdiction on expired probation matter.

Guidotti said the Office of Adult Probation (OAP) believed that Saka's probation was to expire on Nov. 9, 2011.

Guidotti said this error occurred because Saka was incarcerated for 14 days, from Oct. 25 to Nov. 9.

"For whatever reason, the (OAP) used Mr. Saka's release date from the Department of Corrections to calculate the expiration date of the probationary period," Guidotti said.

Saka contended that, consistent with the court's order, his probation began on Oct. 13, 2011, regardless whether he appeared at the OAP on Oct. 13.

In the government's opposition, Robinson said the court's order did not specify when probation was to begin, only when Saka was to report to the Office of Adult Probation.

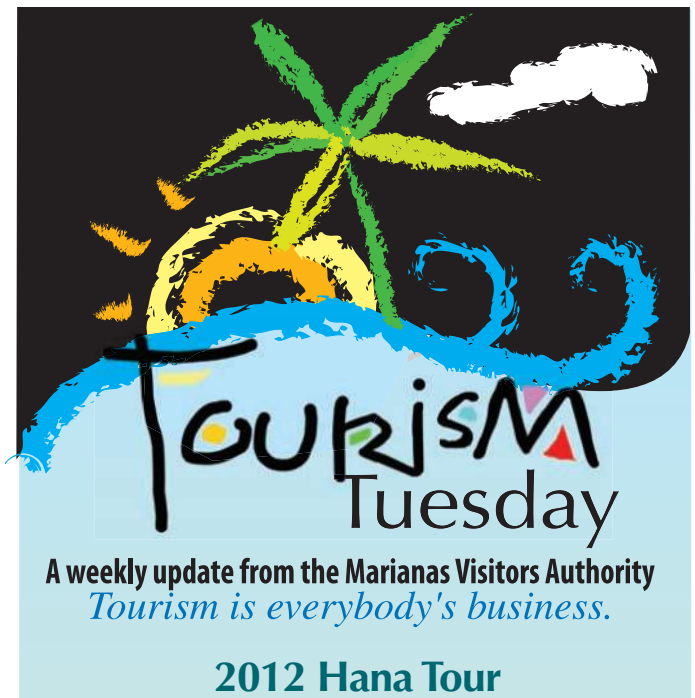
Robinson said Saka mistakenly interprets the word *report* to mean that probation began at this time.

"When defendants report to the Office of Adult Probation, they typically go through probation orientation," the prosecutor pointed out.

Robinson said orientation does not always coincide with the start of probation and there are no magic words at orientation that start probation.

Robinson said Saka reported to the Office of Adult Probation on Oct. 15, 2010, where he went through orientation.

The prosecutor said since nothing in the court's order specifically indicates when probation was supposed to begin, it only makes sense that probation did not begin until Saka's release from DOC on Nov. 9, 2010.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

2012 Hana Tour International Travel Show, Korea

The **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** participated in the **2012 Hana Tour International Travel Show** in Korea, a travel trade show that attracted over 70,000 visitors on May 18-20, 2012.

This year's show was the largest yet, with 560 participants representing 45 international countries. The MVA was joined by **Aqua Resort Club, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Saipan World Resort, Duty Free Shoppers, and SandCastle Saipan** in manning an information booth. Balloons, island maps, and **Marianas Guidebooks** were distributed to visitors, toward the goal of promoting the Northern Marianas as one of the best leisure destination for potential visitors.

So far this fiscal year, the Northern Marianas has received 65,340 visitors from Korea, an increase of 10 percent over the same period last year.

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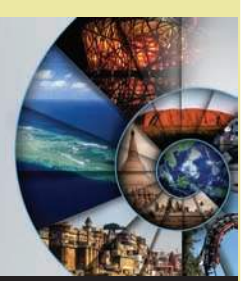

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Parties' absence hampers dialogue on hospital's $7M loan

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Marianas Public Land Trust board of directors has decided to table last Friday the discussion on the newly signed law that will provide the public hospital $7 million in supplemental funding for its operation due to absence and non-participation of all parties concerned on the loan proposal.

MPLT called a special meeting last Friday solely to focus on the issue, but only Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief financial officer Alvaro Santos and board member Roy Rios were in attendance to discuss, among other things, the true state of the Commonwealth Health Center and its viability to fulfill the loan agreement.

MPLT chair Pedro Deleon Guerrero was informed that corporation chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta attended an important meeting at CHC, while MPLT received no confirmation that Secretary of Finance Larissa Larson or Attorney General Edward Buckingham were going to join Friday's meeting.

Because of this, Deleon Guerrero wrote Babauta after the meeting reiterating the concerns of the MPLT.

"The meeting was an abbreviated discussion. We received a basic update on the situation at CHC as to its operations and finances. MPLT also impressed on CHC the pending requirements under the existing consolidated loan agreement for the original $3 million. Unfortunately, this was the limit of what we could do at [today's] meeting given the absence of parties invited to participate in this discussion critical to the supplemental loan request," said Deleon Guerrero.

The chairman said that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has emphasized that in approving Public Law 17-76, CHC must obtain the concurrence of the Office of the Governor, Secretary of Finance, and the Office of Attorney General as to any supplemental loan and related expenditures.

"MPLT is fine with this requirement, and the trustees have endorsed the collaborative approach with respect to CHC's needs. Indeed, that was the purpose of today's meeting and regrettably we were unable to initiate substantive discussions. More specifically, what are the challenges that lay ahead as to CHC's ability to secure an additional investment from MPLT in the areas of its finances, operations, and management," Deleon Guerrero told Babauta in his letter dated June 15.

According to the chairman, the MPLT also wished to explore the ramifications of the expressed policy decision toward privatization of CHC and the many other ongoing uncertainties with its operations.

"Without a focused and substantive engagement the decision-makers, the trustees cannot even proceed with the prospect of the investment much less the due diligence process," he said, adding that MPLT hopes that CHC can engage the finance secretary and the AG as to its plans and the MPLT Trustees stand ready to meet if and when everyone is ready to continue the dialogue and discussions.

MPLT earlier admitted that $7 million has already been reserved for the new loan, which will sum up the hospital's loan obligation to $11.58 million, including the $3 million earlier released for its operation and the $1.58 million set aside for the CHC electronic health record system project, both released in March.

Court appoints counsel for karaoke operator charged with sex trafficking

The federal court has appointed a private counsel for Chang Ru Meng Backman, a karaoke operator facing sex trafficking charges.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona appointed Robert O'Connor as counsel for Backman after her two hired lawyers withdrew from the case.

O'Connor appeared with Backman during her arraignment on Friday.

The judge reiterated to Backman that while in jail, the defendant does not have access to sufficient funds to hire counsel.

Manglona, however, ordered that as funds become available to Backman, the money shall be paid to O'Connor.

The arraignment and detention hearing will be today, Tuesday, at 3pm.

Attorneys William M. Fitzgerald and Bruce Berline on Thursday requested the court to allow them to withdraw from representation of Backman.

Fitzgerald in his declaration stated that he had previously discussed the terms under which he and Berline would represent the defendant and she indicated that she was willing and able to comply.

Fitzgerald said subsequent to the hearing when they again discussed the terms under which he would represent Backman, she informed them that she was unable to comply with the terms that they had previously agreed on.

Last Tuesday, the scheduled arraignment for Backman did not push through as she appeared without a lawyer.

Judge Manglona then continued the arraignment to Thursday, June 14.

During her first court appearance two weeks ago, Backman told the court it was her decision to hire her own attorney and that attorney Randall Cunliffe was going to find counsel for her.

The indictment charged the 39-year-old Backman with three counts of sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion; and three counts of alien smuggling-harboring.

According to the indictment, Backman operated the Holiday Night Club, a karaoke bar located on the second floor of a building in Chalan Kanoa. The club also allegedly provided sexual services for an added fee. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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APIL delegates start arriving for general assembly

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Lawmakers and other dignitaries from the region have started arriving for the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures' 31st General Assembly that will open tomorrow, Legislative Bureau director Melchor Mendiola said yesterday.

Mendiola said the first few delegates arrived on Sunday and Monday, but a majority will arrive today.

APIL's general assembly seeks to foster regional cooperation on a host of issues such as tourism, airlines, environmental protection, and economic development.

The four-day event is expected to draw over 50 off-island visitors and some 150 from the CNMI.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will deliver the opening remarks, while U.S. Office of Insular Affairs' Nikolau Pula will be the keynote speaker. The opening ceremony will start at 9am on Wednesday

The first morning session will also see a call to order by APIL president Rebluud Kesolei of Palau, followed by roll call of member entities by APIL vice president Judith Won Pat of Guam.

Member delegations will also deliver opening remarks, including those from American Samoa, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae, Yap, Guam, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Hawaii, and the CNMI.

The presentations include those on tourism and airlines, cruise line industry, and connecting the Blue Continent, and natural resources.

HISTORY CONFERENCE CLARISSA A. DAVID

Participants of the 1st Marianas History Conference last Thursday take a break from the lectures at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan. Close to 200 history and humanities enthusiasts from the CNMI, Guam, and other parts of the world converged at the conference.

CUC

From Page 1

The latest EO extends by 30 days the original executive order dated May 18.

Fitial cited as reasons for the emergency extension CUC's continuing cash shortage which threatens to halt power, water, and wastewater services because of the lack of funds to buy diesel and lube oil for its operation; lack of quorum on the Board of Professional Licensing that is supposed to issue license or certificate of authorization to off-island bidders; a continuing renewable energy crisis; a continuing technical worker crisis; and a non-existing CUC board of directors.

Manglona said a lack of BPL quorum is not an excuse because it is the governor himself who is supposed to nominate people to serve on this board.

The Fitial administration is poised to award a 20-year renewable energy contract to U.S.-based American Capital Energy Co. whose local business partner is Herman Sablan.

The contract award for Japan-based Saipan Solar System is currently on hold for technical concerns.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), for his part, wants CUC to provide more information regarding its decision to back out from a $10-million loan agreement with Rhode Island-based Independence Bank even when, he said, CUC has already been collecting additional fees from customers since "May or June" last year to help pay for this loan.

"I intend to get to the bottom of this and find out when does CUC intend to give this back to its customers," said Dela Cruz, chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Committee.

Dela Cruz said if his math is correct, "CUC has already collected over $1 million in fees for the payback of this $10 million loan from Independence Bank that is now not needed."

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota), chair of the Senate PUTC Committee, separately said CUC could no longer afford to enter into a $10 million loan and pay a monthly rate of $110,000. Ayuyu met with CUC officials last week at the Senate.

"We asked CUC to meet with the administration again and see whether future CIP [capital improvement project] funds could be given to CUC. If we don't take care of CUC's stipulated order requirements, we will end up facing stiff fines from EPA [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency] of maybe a million or so," Ayuyu said.

Ayuyu said the administration needs to focus on CUC's operational needs.

Fitial's latest CUC emergency declaration again said that the cash-strapped central government, the Public School System, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. still owe CUC over $8 million. He said residential users also owe CUC over $4 million. CUC also has $2.6 million in accounts payable to vendors.

One of the new paragraphs in the governor's latest EO is his mention of the CNMI and the government's severe economic distress. He said the government's budget alone fell from $120 million to a little over $100 million.

"This has put a severe strain on the government to meet its obligation," Fitial said.

Dela Cruz reiterated that it should be the central government—not CUC, CHC, or the NMI Retirement Fund—that has to be placed under a state of emergency. The government owes the Fund over $300 million in unpaid employer contribution.

Fitial added another line to his new EO referring to government and CUC finances.

"A unified government approach is necessary to reconcile and resolve the fiscal crises of the government with the fiscal crises of CUC. This can only be achieved through a emergency declaration," he said.

As of last week, the Senate was poised to reject the governor's CUC emergency declaration. Now that the EO has been extended for another 30 days, the Senate is reviewing its position on the matter.

Fitial's EO no longer mentioned that it has a problem with a non-functioning PUC.

The Senate confirmed three of the governor's appointees to CUC around the time Fitial placed CUC under a state of emergency.

However, the governor's latest EO still suspends provisions in Title 4 of the Commonwealth Code and PL 17-34 "that concern PUC regulation of CUC and its actions, and potentially, any oversight of renewable energy contracts are suspended in this Order."

Manglona said there is a reason why PUC exists—to regulate and have oversight over CUC and other utilities firms.

Fitial first placed CUC under emergency status on Aug. 1, 2008, to enable it to skirt procurement and other laws to solve rolling blackouts and imminent power generation failure. The governor had been extending the emergency declaration month to month. CUC entered its 31st month under a state of emergency in February 2011.

On March 28, 2011, he lifted the emergency declaration for CUC. Over a year later or on May 18, he placed it again under emergency.

Fitial also placed under a state of emergency the NMI Retirement Fund and CHC.

PAI

From Page 1

that may be discovered as may be appropriate."

"He (Hasselback) will, in effect, stand in my shoes as Public Auditor for the purposes of this investigation," Pai told Manglona.

Manglona declined to comment on the matter at this time.

Pai apologized for the delay in responding formally to Senate Resolution 17-63, adopted in August 2011. SR 17-63 requests OPA to supplement a U.S. Interior Inspector General report on the CNMI ARRA management contract with its own report and recommendations to the CNMI Legislature.

The Senate resolution was authored by Sens. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota), Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota).

Pai and Attorney General Edward Buckingham have not been seeing eye-to-eye on a host of issues including the sole-source ARRA management contract.

Back in December, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial told OPA to remove itself from any role re-investigating the award of the ARRA management contract.

Fitial blamed the public auditor for failing to raise ethical concerns back in October 2010 when the governor asked him to review the possible sole-source contract for OPA clearance.

Both Pai and Buckingham are Fitial's appointees.

Pai, in his two-page letter to Manglona yesterday, said there have been many accusations, both personal and professional, claiming that there exist impermissible conflicts preventing him from being capable of continuing the investigation mandated by Senate Resolution 17-63.

"I would like to first assure you that there are no legitimate grounds to support these accusations, and that I stand ready and willing to continue to discharge my duties as public auditor, free from any actual conflict. Since some of these accusations surround events outside of my direct control, however, there may remain a perception that these allegations of conflicts of interest may have some merit," Pai told Manglona.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, said yesterday he looks forward to the OPA report on the ARRA contract award.

Cruz said this investigation is separate from the Senate request to also investigate Buckingham related to the sole-source ARRA management contract award and his alleged hosting of a delegate campaign in the 2010 elections.

Cruz said the NMI Bar Association, which the Senate asked to investigate Buckingham, referred the matter to the Judiciary. Cruz said he believes Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert Naraja is the one handling the matter but he has yet to get an update on this.

GOVERNOR

From Page 1

policy which target federal resources at illegal immigrations who pose a greater threat, such as criminals and those trying to enter the country now.

The United Workers Movement-NMI, Dekada Movement, and Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal estimate that dozens in the CNMI could benefit from this latest immigration policy.

Under the new policy contained in U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano's June 15 memo, people younger than 30 who came to the United States before the age of 16, and were successful students or served in the military can get a two-year deferral from deportation.

The DHS memo also allows those meeting the requirements to apply for work permits.

Participants must be in the United States now and be able to prove they have been living in the country continuously for at least five years.

The Fitial administration said for a period of two years, those who qualify will not face deportation and they will be eligible for a work permit, "which will allow them to obtain sought-after government identification such as a driver's license and a Social Security number."

"The key factor here is that those who meet the criteria will be eligible for a work permit. This means that there must be an employer willing to hire first," Demapan said.

The CNMI is facing high unemployment rate among locals and foreigners, coupled with work hour cuts, as the economy continues to tank.

"What is important to note, before people get misled yet again, is that the president's new policy does not bestow any sort of substantive right, immigration status or pathway to citizenship. An action as such would need to be done by way of an Act of Congress," Demapan said.

He said the White House can only set policies, or regulate, within the parameters of existing governing statutes.

"That said, those unaffected by the criteria set forth by the White House should continue to honor all existing laws governing immigration and foreign labor," he added.

Worker groups are optimistic that Obama, as well as the U.S. Congress, could also be sympathetic to the plight of long-term legal foreign workers in the CNMI who have been asking for improved immigration status for years and decades.

"If the president can help those who have been considered illegal, I don't see why he can't help those who came to the CNMI legally and have lawfully contributed to the CNMI economy for a number of years," UWM-NMI president Rabby Syed had said.

Florida-based human rights activist Wendy Doromal is working on an outreach campaign to educate members of the U.S. Congress on the history and present plight of the long-term foreign workers in the CNMI and their families. He said they need to emphasize these long-term workers' "legal" status.

Deleon Guerrero's term at BOE set to expire

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

State Board of Education member Galvin Deleon Guerrero yesterday confirmed that his term at the education panel will soon expire and his slot will be up for grabs in the coming mid-term elections.

Deleon Guerrero is among the five voting members of the board representing Saipan. He is the incumbent secretary and treasurer of the board and serves as head of two standing committees: school reform, parent, teacher, student involvement committee; and the ad-hoc committee for commissioner of education evaluation.

Deleon Guerrero is also assigned as the board's representative to the Head Start Policy Council.

His term will officially end on Dec. 31 this year. Deleon Guerrero ran for the BOE in the 2007 election and was sworn in as a board member in January 2008 for one term. Due to the realignment of elections cycles, the term was for five years, which expires in January 2013.

He decided to run for the BOE post because, as a committed educator, he wanted to help students and other educators in the CNMI by bringing a classroom perspective to the boardroom. He wanted to ensure that decisions made at the policy level always considered the real-world impact and implications of such decisions.

For the new election, however the board member admitted he has yet to make a decision.

"I have not decided on whether or not I will run for reelection because I am considering pursuing doctoral or further graduate studies beginning in the Fall of 2013," he admitted to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

When asked about his priorities for PSS, Deleon Guerrero said his goals remain the same.

Among these goals is to help improve PSS' Special Education programs where the board has adopted a differential salary schedule for SPED teachers in order to recruit and retain more teachers.

However, he emphasized that as PSS moves forward with austerity measures, it must remain diligent in recruiting and retaining SPED teachers and meeting the needs of all students.

It is also his goal as BOE member to help enhance PSS' disciplinary policies and processes in order to strike the right balance between helping students and maintaining safe and orderly schools.

"While raising this issue was initially controversial, I believe we have made progress in this regard by clarifying the system's disciplinary policies and working toward more uniformity between the schools in enforcing those policies," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

Among his other goals is to help financial literacy. Deleon Guerrero revealed that in addition to revisiting the career and technical education curriculum of PSS, the board also re-established the Junior Achievement Program which he hopes to continue and expand next school year.

To improve PSS' leadership through the development of an effective evaluation and assessment system, the BOE and the PSS he said have worked closely with McREL to develop an evaluation and assessment system for the entire system, including evaluating the education commissioner.

"With the commissioner's contract up for review this year, we look forward to integrating this new evaluation and assessment system into that contract," he added.

IF TRANSFER OF MEMBERS TO SSA PUSHES THROUGH

Fund highly recommends hiring of actuary

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If the Fitial administration's plan to transfer active members of the pension program to the Social Security Administration pushes through by the start of the fiscal year, the service of an actuarial expert should be obtained to guide the central government in its plans.

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard Villagomez disclosed this to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday admitting that he will recommend the tapping of an actuary for this exact purpose.

"Considering the relative magnitude of the proposed transition coupled with the complexities of defined benefit retirement systems, we highly recommend the professional expertise of an actuary be obtained to fully illustrate and plan around the financial impact of the transition," said Villagomez, admitting that the discussions with the SSA have been solely between the administration and the federal agency.

According to the administrator, one obvious need now is finding a source and establishing a mechanism for funding the post-transition defined benefit plan.

"There are some ideas out there to raise revenues to fund the payment of benefits or at least a portion of it to extend it beyond two years. Whatever ideas—whether one that we've discussed in the past or new—that our elected officials are thinking about to help, our recommendation would be to hurry up, time is running out," said Villagomez yesterday.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued last June 7 an executive order declaring the Fund under a state of emergency and eventually transferred its function to the executive branch's Department of Finance. The Legislature has 60 days to decide whether to support or reject it before it takes effect.

During Wednesday's meeting of retirees at American Memorial Park, many voted to reject the governor's executive order and urged the Legislature to junk it. Retirees have expressed lack of confidence on the Executive Branch's capability to effectively handle the program and its questionable intention for the $320 million plus obligation to the Fund which represent its unpaid employer contribution for many years.

With the ongoing crisis at the Fund, Villagomez confirmed that the consultants and one active manager—Richmond Capital—are very understanding about the situation and stand ready to assist the Fund in any way.

The Fund's portfolio has been repositioned to a more conservative allocation in light of the short investment horizon of two years.

Villagomez said assets are now invested in PIMCO institutional class mutual funds, BlackRock unit trusts, and Richmond Capital. The asset mix, he said, is around 75 percent high grade bonds and 25 percent low beta equity strategies.

When asked if the ongoing crisis at the Fund negatively impact its market performance, Villagomez responded in the affirmative.

"Yes of course, this is what we've been saying repeatedly. With the need to withdraw $53 million each year due to deficient contributions we are forced to invest in highly liquid but lower returning assets to address this need. Also, with an extremely short investment horizon of two or less years we are further forced toward the need to be ultra conservative," added Villagomez.

CAPITAL HILL MEETING HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos meet with lawmakers last week on Capital Hill to discuss the Fitial administration's proposal to draft an enhanced version of the vetoed House Bill 17-226, which allows non-retired NMI Retirement Fund members to withdraw up to 50 percent of their contributions without penalty.

Lee Herbert I. Monkeya and
Tricia I. Igisomar
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Saipan, MP 96950
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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF AS GUARDIAN OF THE ESTATE OF: T.R.R.I.M. (d.o.b. 1/4/2008)) Minor Child, by Lee Herbert I. Monkeya and Tricia Inez Igisomar Petitioners	**FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 12 - 0283 NOTICE OF HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardians for the estate of the above-named minor child by Lee Herbert I. Monkeya and Tricia Inez Igisomar, Petitioners, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior Court before the Associate Judge Perry B. Inos on the 19th day of July, 2012 at 9:30 A.M. or as soon as thereafter

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Thursday, June 21, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMARY MATTERS
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Adoption of Agenda
Adoption of Minutes: May 17, 2012 Special Board Meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
a. HOME Loans for Review & Approval
b. QAP 2012 Public Hearing Update
c. Renewal of Legal Services Contract
d. Disaster Vouchers
e. CDBG Update (Response from PSS re: Construction of Junior High School Facility)
f. FY 2011 Audit Status

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. OTHER MATTERS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

mina
Mariana Islands Nature Alliance

Membership Meeting

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA) will be holding its annual general membership dinner meeting this coming Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at Shenanigans from 5:30pm to 9:00pm. All MINA members are invited to participate in this important gathering to receive an update on various MINA projects and activities. Community members who are not yet members are also invited to join the meeting and to become members of MINA.

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance is a community - based, nonprofit organization that was formed by a group of people whose dedication and compassion for the environment felt the need to promote and advocate for the protection and restoration of our natural resources in the Commonwealth.

Some of the projects that MINA has been involved in include the Marine Debris Program, the Environmental Teach Camp, Obyan Revegetation Project, the Tasi Watch Program, the No-Need Bag Campaign, and other projects.

MEETING AGENDA
JUNE 20, 2012

I. Preliminary Matters:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
II. Report:
A. Chair's Report
III. Guest Speaker:
A. Dr. Peter Houk
IV. New Business
A. Nomination of Board Members
V. Announcements/Open Forum
VI. Adjournment

The cost of dinner for this event will be $20 for members and $25 for nonmembers. However, this fee is waived for members who renew their membership and for nonmembers who sign up to become members of MINA and pay the membership due on this evening.

Hart: NMC staffing down to 160 FTEs

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College recorded a significant decline in its personnel after its implementation of a series of cost-cutting initiatives last year all aimed to reduce the college's expenses.

From 198 full-time employees two years ago, NMC's staffing dropped to 175 last November and now only total 160 FTEs. The figures are based on the records of the college obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

In an interview last week with NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, she revealed that some positions remain frozen, while other slots were posted internally within the organization such as the vacant faculty positions.

NMC REGENTS MEETING MONETH G. DEPOSA
Board of Regents member Frank Rabauliman, right, explains to colleagues the importance of the proposed policies, while regents Juan Lizama and Elaine Orilla look on during their board meeting Thursday at Northern Marianas College.

NMC has two types of employees: staff and faculty members who were either serving in 10-month or 12-month contracts.

Hart described this approach as a "fair balancing act" within the organization after they found out, based on the college peer analysis, that NMC has more staff than faculty members who are providing instruction to students. This area is vital in the accreditation which usually requires a mixed of full-time and adjunct faculty members within the organization.

"When it comes to faculty and staff, we're lopsided. We seem to have more staff than our peers with similar size. This means, in faculty number, we're under," Hart admitted to *Saipan Tribune*.

In recognizing this concern, NMC is now filling faculty positions with those qualified staff members who apply for the slots. She pointed out that in the internal posting of jobs, minimum qualifications, and requirements apply to all applicants.

As of Friday, NMC records show that five faculty positions have been internally announced of which one has been filled already. The other four positions are in the interview process mostly scheduled for this week.

Hart said that besides the positions internally announced, NMC is also seeking outside applicants for slots that they deem hard to fill within the organization. One of them is an instructor for nursing program.

According to the president, efforts in revisiting all positions at the college gear toward the budget processing for this fiscal year, which NMC was only allocated $5.1 million for personnel and operations.

Next Top Chef competition hopes to raise $5K

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2nd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef fundraising competition hopes to raise $3,000 to $5,000 for the benefit the nonprofit group Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation.

Patterned after the hit television cooking show, Saipan's Next Top Chef is slated for July 28, Saturday, from 2pm to 4pm at Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

The competition is open to all cooks or chefs who will be asked to prepare under a time limit of 20 minutes a main entrée using Certified Angus Beef and fresh local ingredients.

Entry fee for interested contestants is $50 per competitor. Entries will be judged by three non-chef community members.

Vicky Benavente, one of the volunteers for the fundraising event, said in an interview that they already have five competitors for the event, which will be announced in the coming days.

She said last year's event was "very successful" that the community wanted it to be a regular activity in the community.

Benavente, PIC Saipan executive assistant, said they are excited to have renowned Guam chef Peter Duenas to host the show, which is sponsored by the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, PIC Saipan, Joeten Enterprises, and Certified Angus Beef.

While Benavente noted that the target amount to be raised is a bit high, she said they are optimistic to surpass last year's figures.

"Any little amount we raise will go a long way with the charity," Benavente told *Saipan Tribune*.

Proceeds from the event will go to Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation, which is committed to meeting the needs of the poor in our communities and making a difference in the lives of orphans, street children, and widows to help them realize their full potential.

"We carry out our work in multiple countries, working hard to tackle the root causes of poverty and focusing especially on women as they are the major contributors to the advancement of the entire family," the foundation's website states.

Benavente said that last year, Empty Vessel distributed school supplies to students at Oleai Elementary School as well as paid for tuition fees of young school children in the Philippines and in Kenya.

She urged the public to support this year's Saipan's Next Top Chef. "It'll be a fun event to bring the family and raise money for a good cause," added Benavente.

Tickets to the event cost $10 per person age 4 years or older. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Vicky Benavente at 237-5103 or vickybenavente@gmail.com; Shelli Neal at 287-2368 or shellineal@gmail.com; or Rose Smith at 483-0162 or roseevm@yahoo.com.

Owner of defunct remittance center pleads not guilty, again

The owner of a defunct remittance center has pleaded not guilty to a second superseding indictment filed against her in connection with the alleged conspiracy to defraud a Philippine bank in the amount of $109,585.33.

Ana Maria V. Villegas pleaded not guilty to the new indictment or replacement indictment charging her with one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, and two counts of wire fraud.

Attorney Mark Scoggins appeared as counsel for Villegas at the arraignment on Friday.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the jury trial for Aug. 27, 2012 at 9am.

Manglona set the hearing on pretrial motions for Aug. 6, 2012.

It was the third time that Villegas pleaded not guilty in this case because of the government's replacement of the indictment.

The second superseding indictment named Villegas as the only defendant in the case.

The new indictment was filed in court last June 7 or a few days after Judge Manglona dismissed the case against Villegas' husband, Haydn Villegas.

Manglona dismissed without prejudice the indictment against Haydn Villegas after the U.S. government and Haydn Villegas both agreed to dismiss the indictment.

Dismissal without prejudice means the plaintiff is allowed to re-file a new suit on the same claim in the future.

Assistant U.S. attorney Rami S. Badawy informed the court that the reason for the motion to dismiss is that issues have arisen that call into question whether the government can prove its case against Haydn Villegas, beyond a reasonable doubt.

Haydn Villegas, through counsel Timothy H. Bellas, earlier stated that neither him nor his wife were aware that co-defendant Armilaine Salamat was falsifying their company's books.

Salamat used to work as manager of PNB Express, which was then a subsidiary of Philippine National Bank.

In June 2010, Salamat pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and wire fraud. She is currently awaiting her sentencing. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

WSR opens registration for student enrollment

William S. Reyes Elementary School in Chalan Kanoa will have its open registration from June 19 to July 27 for new, transfer, and returning students for school year 2012-2013.

To complete registration, bring a copy of updated health certificate, Medicaid or student insurance for school year 2012-1013, and an official student transcript or report card (for new students). If applicable, legal guardianship or adoption documents approved by the CNMI Court or a U.S. Court. Office hours are from 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. For inquiries, contact the office of the administration at 237-3542/3 or 664-3971. ***(PR)***

Attention new KagHS students

All incoming freshmen from ChaCha Oceanview and Hopwood Jr. High must register at Kagman High School on or before Aug. 24 for optimal scheduling. All returning KHS students must re-register for school year 2012-2013. Registration forms may be picked up from the main office or the registrars office.

The reason for re-registration is that we must keep up to date records for every student enrolled at KHS. This also allows us to ensure your child receives their class schedule correctly and on time. Delays in registration, might result in delays in your child's schedule. To avoid delay, please register all returning and incoming freshmen on or before August 24th 2012.

Orientation for Kagman High School Students will be announced at a later date. If you have any questions, please contact the main office at 237 3840. Or email kagmanhs@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

MHS Class of 1992 sets reunion

The Marianas High School Class of 1992 will be celebrating its 20th reunion with a "Save the Best for Last" Reunion Ball on Saturday, June 30, 2012 at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret. All classmates and former classmates of the Class of 1992 are invited to what promises to be a great evening with great friends. Tickets are only $20 each and includes dinner and beverages (including wine, liquor, and beer). Purchase your ticket by contacting Daisy at 287-3249 or Cherlyn at 237-3201. You can also email Jessica at butterspirit@yahoo.com, Cherlyn at saipansmile@gmail.com or Daisy at daisy_mendiola@yahoo.com. ***(PR)***

CCA board meeting today

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its monthly meeting today, June 19, 2012, at 8:30am in the CCA conference room in Gualo Rai. The agenda includes reports from the president, steering committees, program manager, 2012 CNCSWD, and program/project updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(PR)***

Free Friday films at AMP

The American Memorial Park presents free family friendly films twice a day every Friday (2pm and 6pm) in the Visitor Center auditorium. The film premiere on June 22 will be Brother Bear. Future films include Up, Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who, Ratatouille, Robots, and Charlotte's Web. ***(PR)***

8 students enroll in agriculture, aquaculture program

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The aquaculture industry in the Commonwealth gains ground as an ongoing and federally funded program is preparing eight students to equip them with the knowledge and training they need to become successful aquaculture farmers on island.

The students comprise Cohort 1 of the Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program, one of the sub-grant applications under the CNMI Department of Commerce that have been approved for a $1-million technical assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs.

The Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program, through the CNMI Aquaculture Producers Association, received a $90,000 funding in support of the CNMI Economic and Labor Enhancement Program aimed at training U.S. eligible workers in preparation of the reduction of foreign labor a result of U.S. Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act which placed the islands' immigration under federal control.

The Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program is also a collaborative effort with the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research, Extension & Education Service which hosts the program training.

The students were recruited from the Agriculture Science Class of Michael M. Ogo, NMC-CREES aquaculture extension agent. They are Juliana Arriola, Dan Bigalbal, Jesse Castro, and Zeralyn Omar for the morning session from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Those taking the afternoon classes from 1pm to 5pm are Maria Angui, Kenneth Camacho, Charlie Leon Guerrero, and Sasha Pangelinan.

Classes are held at the NMC campus in As Terlaje from Monday to Friday.

"After undergoing the training, this batch can become possible workforce in the aquaculture industry that it will not collapse should 2014 come around," said Ogo in an interview.

Ogo said the program, which kicked off in May and will run for six months or until October, encompasses four different areas or sections. One section is the on-the-job training, which involves hands-on experience for the students in growing shrimp and tilapia.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Dan Bigalbal feeds the tilapia after Juliana Arriola and Zeralyn Omar tested the salinity and PH levels of the water in the tanks located at the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service facility in As Terlaje campus last June 13. The three are among the eight trainees under the Aquaculture & Fisheries Development Program, a collaborative effort of the CNMI Aquaculture Producers Association, U.S. Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs, CNMI Department of Commerce, and NMC-CREES.

The second section is the Aquaculture Training Online Learning or known as ATOLL, an online training involving some 90 instructional videos on aquaculture-related projects done by experts from around the world.

According to Ogo, the ATOLL was put together by the University of Hawaii Aquaculture Program through its aquaculture coordinator, Dr. Benny Ron, and distance education coordinator, Dr. Barbara Mclain.

"We are so proud to be the first in Micronesia to do this ATOLL," Ogo told *Saipan Tribune*. "It shows that the trend in education now is that more and more people teach and learn by going online."

Part of the Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program is the workshop that they provide to the trainees. Ogo said the students attended the shrimp workshop conducted by operations manager Mel Catalma of Saipan Aquaculture. A tilapia workshop by David Crisostomo, formerly of the University of Guam, is also in the works.

"We've got people with industry experience sharing their knowledge with our students to get them better equipped about aquaculture in the islands," said Ogo.

The last but not the least component of the program involves training the students about the business aspect of aquaculture. "We believe that anyone can be a farmer but without business background, you will likely fail," said Ogo.

Ogo noted that the eight students will also be attending the Bridge Program, a "guaranteed job interview program" also funded by OIA that provides training to participants to allow them to confidently conduct themselves in an interview.

"We want our students to be well-rounded and best prepared for the real world," he added.

Ogo emphasized that the Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program has a two-fold aim: developing a local workforce and encouraging U.S. eligible workers to start their own business.

Last Wednesday, the program participants from the morning session gave *Saipan Tribune* a tour of the NMC-CREES facility, where the students have grown about 1,000 pieces of different tilapia varieties, as well as several crops like Romaine lettuce and basil through hydroponics.

Juliana Arriola, who majors in Special Education at NMC, said that her father's small tilapia farm in Dandan got her interested to avail of the free aquaculture program.

"I've always been involved with my father's business. I would help him feed, catch, and sell his fish so I think this program will help me help my father more. I'm learning a lot and my classmates motivate me," said Arriola, 19.

For his part, Jesse Castro said he has learned more about aquaculture and hydroponics through the program.

"It's an outstanding program that teaches you about food sustainability. I want to learn as much knowledge and hopefully put it into practice and pass it on to others," said the retired educator and long-time farmer on Saipan.

Ogo expressed excitement in immediately starting Cohort 2 of the program immediately after Cohort 1. While several students are already interested to join, Ogo said the number that they can accommodate is very limited.

"We're hoping that if we succeed in this program, we can continue to get more funding to train more people and further the growth of the CNMI's aquaculture industry," added Ogo.

PSS begins 2012 summer online courses

This is to remind all students who enrolled for the Public School System's Summer Online Courses that instructions have been sent to their individuals emails.

PSS is requesting students to follow the instructions on their email to confirm and register. If they have any questions or did not receive their email confirmation, they are instructed to email jeaniffer.cubangbang@cnmipss.org with specific information as to their name, school, and courses.

Students can also make an appointment at the Summer Distance Education Resource Testing Center near the MHS campus and speak to counselor or eTeacher.

On Jan. 31, 2012 PSS launched their distance education program with eight high school online courses for students to meet graduation requirements. A total of 118 Spring 2012 students from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan participated in a semester-long study online through the online LMS (Learning Management System) called CourseSites by Blackboard. Cubangbang, the IT Program Manager in charge of the Distance Ed Program recruited and trained more eTeachers these months and now there are more courses being offered online.

This summer, beginning June 18, approximately 600 students from Rota, Tinian, and Saipan enrolled from a choice 20 online courses to receive credits toward graduation requirements. Elementary students will also experience their first online enrichment course. Junior high students will be able to choose from four online credit or elective courses.

The Fall 2012 1st Edition catalog was just released last week. Fall classes start Sept. 4, 2012. Students can choose from over 30 online courses including rigorous Advanced Placement (AP) courses for which students can receive college credit in addition to high school credit upon successful examination through a CollegeBoard exam. Students can register at www.goo.gl/VJJwc; deadline is Aug. 17.

This is a great opportunity for students who'd like to graduate early or on-time, want to work part-time, or do early admission into NMC.

Cubangbang is also looking for community partners and business establishments who'd like to offer discounts or internet/wi-fi services to students taking online courses. If you are a parent or student who would like more information about PSS online courses or an organization or business who'd like to send a discount or service proposal, please email Jeaniffer Cubangbang, IT program manager at PSS Office for Instructional Services at jeaniffer.cubangbang@cnmipss.org. ***(PR)***

FATHER'S DAY REUNION CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Former and present Traveller's Lodge tenants enjoy their reunion to celebrate Father's Day at Ka Hector's new house last Sunday.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to our little *Batitang*, Koa James Lizama, who celebrates his birthday in Cali. We love you, little man! Greetings come from Mom, Dad, Maria, Haley, and your Batitang and Bodig families near and far.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kikkoman Cook-Off set or June 30

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

J.C. Tenorio Enterprises is calling on all Kikkoman lovers to join the 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off next Saturday, June 30, at the Joeten Susupe Shopping Center.

Frannie T. Demapan, Joeten marketing manager and buyer, said yesterday that the upcoming cooking challenge is one of the many activities that their store has come up with to promote Kikkoman products.

"It's a fun event where we can see the creativity of different contestants, what recipes they can create using Kikkoman," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Demapan said the culinary competition is open to all individual Kikkoman users 18 years or older—be it professional or aspiring cooks—on a first come, first served basis. Registration is free and each contestant will only be allowed to submit one dish using any Kikkoman products in the contest.

The 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off has two categories: appetizer and main entrée. A maximum of 10 contestants will be allowed to enter each category.

Registration forms for the contest are available at all Joeten stores but filled out forms will have to be submitted along with a copy of the recipe at Joeten Susupe.

"We need to know ahead of time what dish they're cooking," noted Demapan.

According to Demapan, all contestants will have to prepare their dishes at home and just bring the cooked entries to Joeten Susupe next Saturday for the judges to taste.

"The judges won't know which competitor cooked which dish; they just base it on taste," she added.

Winners for each category will receive $150 worth of Joeten gift certificates for 1st place, $100 for 2nd place, and $50 for third place plus other exciting prizes.

All contestants will be receiving an exclusive Joeten/Kikkoman T-shirts and their recipes will be forwarded to the Kikkoman office in Japan.

"We're calling out all Kikkoman lovers to join the 2012 Kikkoman Cook-Off which should really be a fun event," said Demapan. "Yes, it's a competition but it would be nice to see at the same time what kind of flavors will come out using different Kikkoman products."

For more information, visit Joeten's Facebook page or call 234-6445 ext. 292.

GUARNG wins Army logistics award

The Guam Army National Guard won this year's Supply Excellence Award (SEA) in the recent Chief of Staff of the Army's Combined Logistics Excellence Awards (CLEA) competition, according to an announcement from the CSA recently.

The CLEA recognizes organizational achievement in the areas of deployment, maintenance, and supply operations for all components—Active Army, Army National Guard, and Army Reserve. The competition shines the spotlight on logisticians and recognizes the critical role they play in supporting the warfighter.

The three awards programs include: the Army Supply Excellence Award, the Army Deployment Excellence Award and the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence.

Representing the Guam Guard, the GUARNG Element (GE) Property Book Office (PBO) section was entered in the SEA Level 2(B) Property Book category for the final Army-wide level competition. But before getting to the overall contest, they had to compete and win against similar Army National Guard units that had already won in the six other regions around the nation. Then at the DA level, the compete against all Army components in their category.

Inspectors from the Department of the Army visited the section in October to scrutinize its records on property book operation, accountability, and how the section was assisting the other units. The section, under the J4/G4 manages five different Major Subordinate Command (MSC) PBOs, according to LTC David Francisco, Director of Logistics.

The section is composed of three Soldiers: WO1 Vincent Cruz, MSG Mark Blas and SGT Veronica Temong. This section is an extension of the GUARNG J4/G4 Chief PBO and the J4/G4 Supply Management Office. Along with the daily management of GE property book actions, the three also provide Subject Matter Expertise (SME) assistance to the other MSC PBOs and Supply Sergeant.

"They are experts at the Command Supply Discipline Program requirements and provide routine guidance to the entire command on supply related matters. They know the supply regulations that govern supply actions and ensure that all MSC's stay within compliance guidelines," Francisco explained.

"The SEA competition preparation was routine for this PBO team. Not to oversimplify their accomplishment but they simply adhered to the daily routine requirements of any property book section. This is the challenge, supply is a science and the management of property books is an exact science with multiple transactions to satisfy a single supply action."

The inspectors were also looking into what new techniques are being done to make the system work better, according to Cruz. The CDSP is a compilation of existing regulatory requirements, directed at standardizing supply discipline throughout the Army. It is also intended to simplify command, supervisory, and managerial responsibilities, through efforts such as streamlining requirements, and formalizing follow-up procedures.

Participating in these competitions, with the requisite inspections that come with it, "shows a snapshot of where our section or organization is in terms of compliance and enforcement of regulatory guidance," Cruz said.

Keeping on top of these supply actions can be overwhelming and can often lead to property book transaction backlogs that get larger and larger.

"The GE PB Section has virtually no backlog because they are the best in the command at managing their most precious resource - time. They are also the only PB section in the command with excess below the national standard of .5%. That makes them in the 1% bracket of all PB sections in the nation. That is one of the reasons they won the DA level SEA competition for their category. They are the best in the nation at staying the course," Francisco added.

Cruz said winning at that level was a large accomplishment which he attributes much to the individual efforts of MSG Blas and SGT Temong. MSG Blas' in-depth CSDP evaluations and supply assistance inspection team visits were instrumental in raising the level of unit supply standards, while SGT Temong's dedication and attention to detail helped the units with maintaining the supporting documents for the property books, according to Cruz.

"This award is a monumental accomplishment. This is the first time the Guard has won this award at the Property Book Level, more so this was our first attempt. Rarely will you have this accomplishment done on the first time attempt," Cruz said.

The challenge for this winning team now is to maintain that level of expertise, and at the same time have the other PB sections in the command experience the same success, Francisco added. ***(PR)***

CASH FOR COLLEGE NMC

Zenaida Javier, left, outreach counselor for the College Access Challenge Grant program at the Northern Marianas College, assists students during the recent NMC Cash for College workshop. Close to 500 individuals attended the workshop where they received assistance in applying for scholarships and grants. The NMC Cash for College workshop was hosted in collaboration with the CACG program to help students learn about and apply for available financial aid opportunities for college from program representatives, as well as financial aid experts.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 19, 2000

Senate OKs tougher penalties vs businesses without license

Legislation seeking tougher penalties against businesses operating without a government license is now awaiting action from Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio after the Senate passed on Friday HB-12-45 classifying such offense a criminal act. If it becomes law, violators could be found guilty of a felony, punishable by a fine of not more than $50,000, imprisonment of up to five years, or both. The measure, proposed by Rep. David M. Apatang, is an amendment to existing statute under Public Law 11-73 that allows the Department of Commerce to impose administrative sanctions against businesses without the necessary license.

Reyes: Stop whining over CUC decision

The proponent of the law procuring Saipan's 80-megawatt power plant has brushed aside protests filed by losing bidders against selection of Enron, saying that it is just part of the process that involves a project with such magnitude. "We cannot avoid cry-baby situation. This is a system that we just have to bear and [grin]," said Senate Floor Leader Pete P. Reyes when asked for comment. He authored Public Law 12-1 or the Energy Sufficiency Act that reinstated the mothballed power plant, a law that is now being challenged by two bidders of the controversial project as unconstitutional.

Jun. 19, 2001

Land dispute may derail waste management plan

The government may face a legal battle if it fails to settle claims on its alleged use of a private land for the Lower Base Refuse Transfer Station. Lawyer Stephen J. Nutting, who represents the heirs of Rita Rogolofoi, said the government is illegally occupying a large portion of property sitting next close to the Public School System's Pupil Transportation office in Lower Base. Nutting said the property's ownership was settled in 1987 by the Office of the Public Lands. "Despite the ruling, the government used the property as it wished, without regard to actual ownership."

SHRM tackles health insurance issues

The CNMI chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will hold its monthly membership meeting on June 21 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Kathleen Troy-Rucker, ESQ., who is the General Counsel for the CNMI Retirement Fund and GHLIP, will speak about the Health Insurance Portability Act (HIPA) of 1996. This law sets requirements for health insurance policies. Employers can be jointly liable, along with the insurance carrier, if their health insurance policies do not meet HIPA requirements. Chapter membership meetings are not limited to members. Prospective members and companies or individuals interested in the discussion topic are invited to attend. June's luncheon meeting will be held at the Giovanni's Restaurant at the Hyatt from 11:30 to 1:15 on June 21. The cost for the luncheon is $15 for members and $20 for non-members.

Jun. 19, 2002

Concerns raised over shipment of nuke waste through Guam, CNMI

Guam Congressman Robert A. Underwood yesterday expressed his reservations over a shipment of mixed uranium-plutonium oxide (MOX) that may travel near Guam and the Mariana Islands on its journey from Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc. in Japan to British Nuclear Fuels PLC in the United Kingdom. In a June 11 letter to State Department Secretary Colin Powell, Underwood called for assurances from Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States that every precaution possible is taken, so the health and welfare of Pacific Islanders not be jeopardized by a possible terrorist act or mishap at sea. "Recognizing that this MOX can be diverted for nuclear weapons use, I remain especially concerned with the physical and security protection measures for this planned shipment and its traversing near Guam and through the Pacific in a post-September 11th environment," Underwood told Powell.

CDA helps small businesses through Microloan Program

The Commonwealth Development Authority has loaned out more than $100,000 under its Microloan Program in the first quarter of the 2002. According to a report prepared by the CNMI Department of Commerce, CDA's Microloans in the first three months of the year soared by almost 50 percent to $108,389 from 52,500 during the same period last year.

A look at the Coast Guard's Operation Persistent Presence

By PA3 ANTHONY L. SOTO
U.S. COAST GUARD

Nations have set their sights on the South Pacific for many reasons, but the abundance of fish is one worth noting. The Central and South Pacific are among the world's most productive fisheries, in contrast to many others around the world having faced human consumption to the brink of eradication. The need to sustain a growing population in Asia, the immense wealth to be found in the sea and the positioning of nations are just a few catalysts pushing fishing fleets farther afield into the protected waters of Pacific island nations.

These illegal fishing operations are a direct threat to the nations that have limited law enforcement resources. However, this threat is being met cooperatively with the U.S. Coast Guard's most advanced capabilities to ensure a persistent presence and deterrence across the South Pacific.

On April 5, 2012 the Coast Guard's newest deterrent departed Honolulu and headed south to areas frequented by fishing fleets. At 418 feet long, the Coast Guard cutter *Waesche* acts as a formidable front line command center to combat illegal fishing and a supporting asset to partners across the Pacific with similar intentions of protecting the fishery resource. The *Waesche* is the second national security cutter put to sea and its class is set to replace the aging 378-foot Hamilton class high endurance cutters. It is faster, has greater endurance, more amenities and greater aerial reach thanks to its ability to carry two MH-65 Dolphin helicopters, and in the future, unmanned aerial vehicles.

This was *Waesche*'s first mission to the Pacific to take part in an ongoing Coast Guard effort focused on protecting fish.

The Coast Guard has conducted numerous patrols in the past as part of an effort to help protect the exclusive economic zones of various Pacific island nations. These zones extend approximately 230 miles from land into the sea. This effort also protects endangered pelagic fish species, creates and maintains stability in the region and helps build better relations throughout the Pacific. The Coast Guard is the largest U.S. federal maritime law enforcement presence in the Pacific and at the forefront of what has been named Operation Persistent Presence. It is a maritime law enforcement effort of maintaining constant vigilance on the EEZ's and fishing grounds to ensure fishermen follow the regulations set forth by the various governments. Pelagic fish species such as tuna, scombridae, sail fish and marlins populate this expanse, known as "The Tuna Belt" which contains nearly half of the world's tuna supply. These species are highly migratory; making them an international resource with widespread negative impacts, should they be overfished. In order to ensure fishermen are adhering to the laws, a concerted effort has to be made, and that requires physically boarding vessels at sea. For the Coast Guard, finding fishing boats to board means following the fish.

PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS ANTHONY L. SOTO
The Coast Guard cutter *Waesche* cuts through the waves of the Pacific Ocean as the crew conducts fisheries patrols throughout the region, April 8, 2012. The Waesche crew was conducting patrols as a part of Operation Persistent Presence, a 14th Coast Guard District initiative to deter and prevent illegal fishing activities.

While on patrol, the crew of the *Waesche* looks for contacts on the radar and attempts to identify any ships prime for boarding. Several different factors determine which vessel will be boarded and for what reasons. If a captain and crew have a history or track record of violations, they are more likely to be boarded when they are found. If a vessel has previously been boarded and was in compliance, they become a lower risk and less likely to become a target. Capt. Kelly Hatfield, commanding officer of the Waesche equated the cutter's role to that of a "cop walking the beat." The intent is to maintain a presence on the water to ensure fishermen adhere to the rules and regulations that have been put in place. These regulations are intended to provide a set of rules that govern how much fish can be taken and how, particularly tuna. The end intent is to maintain healthy fish stocks. Hatfield noted that sustainable harvests allow fish populations to reproduce thereby maintaining a healthy fishery. Consequently, the tuna industry in the Pacific could be seriously affected by overfishing or illegal fishing, Hatfield added.

Although safety and regulation are important, there are larger implications to the Pacific should fish stocks decline due to mismanagement or illegal consumption. Many Pacific island nations that rely on these stocks may be put in danger economically should fish stocks fall, which could later lead to a societal collapse, Hatfield noted. Island nations, such as the Republic of Nauru, rely heavily on the fishery and the selling of fishing licenses.

Commissioner Richard Britten, of the Nauru Police Force, explained that overfishing and depleted fish stocks would cause hardship to the Nauruan community on the basis that fish are an essential food source for all of Nauru. The issuing of fishing licenses is also a major source of income to the nation, so to deplete fish stocks not only harms the economy, but also impacts a major source of food. Species that are essential to Nauru's food stock include those species targeted by illegal and legal fishing.

The management of fishing licenses for these species ensures a sustainable stock of fish is maintained, Britten added. Illegal fishing or overfishing means that records are not maintained and depletion of stocks will occur very quickly. Fish is a major source of food and income to the island, therefore overfishing cold lead people to seek out other means for a sustainable future. This could mean an increase in crime, organized crime infiltrations, and the establishment of criminal gangs offshore, Britten added. For this reason the U.S. has a vested interest in assisting Nauru with fisheries enforcement conducted through bilateral agreements. This means that their fisheries law enforcement officials are able to work cooperatively with the Coast Guard. Many island nations have limited personnel or capabilities to fully enforce their nation's laws.

PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS ANTHONY L. SOTO
Boarding team members from Coast Guard cutter *Waesche* inspect the refrigeration compartment of the fishing vessel Mariah on May 9, 2012.

Coast Guard cutters provide platforms from which the law enforcement officer, or officers, can patrol their nation's waters under a bilateral agreement. The U.S., in its effort to assist the various island nations within the Pacific, is allowing international ship riders to travel aboard Coast Guard cutters during patrols within foreign waters and take part in enforcement.

And what seems like an issue for small nations with limited resources really is an issue for all nations in the Pacific threatened by overfishing. The U.S. EEZ contained in the 14th Coast Guard District represents 43 percent of the entire U.S. EEZ. The U.S. has eight non-contiguous EEZ's in the Pacific that require oversight, which is challenging due to significant distance between the zones. But the concerns of all nations remain the same, which is one reason for the partnering. Lt. Samuel Turner, from the Royal New Zealand Navy, was aboard the Waesche to observe just how the Coast Guard conducts business. Turner explained that his country has seen increased attempts by fishermen to extract the natural resources from New Zealand waters. With the fifth-largest EEZ in the world, Turner noted that New Zealand is prone to having foreign-flagged vessels either fish illegally in their waters or fish along the border. Overfishing their own stocks is a driving factor in their illegal activities.

The International Shiprider program, which enables partner nations to ride Coast Guard cutters, offers crewmembers and riders the opportunity to share knowledge.

For Turner, it was a chance to reflect on how the Royal New Zealand Navy conducts fisheries in comparison to the Coast Guard. To help prevent illegal fishing or incursions into New Zealand waters, Turner explained that New Zealand uses regular P-3K Orion aircraft patrol flights, conducted by the Royal New Zealand Air Force and monitoring of the fishing fleet by the Ministry of Fisheries to deter unauthorized fishermen. Turner added that a goal of his nation's enforcement program is to have fisheries observers on all of their coastal fleet. New Zealand also has a fleet of six patrol ships within their navy that will be used to conduct offshore and inshore fisheries patrols.

From a regional stabilization standpoint, the U.S. needs to be involved, Hatfield noted. He explained that other nations have interests in these island nations and their resources. If their economies collapse, then there's the risk of other nations coming in and establishing themselves, and perhaps even taking over. By having ships like Waesche maintain a presence in the Pacific, partnerships to share intelligence and best practices, the Coast Guard is able to project a forward presence and deter illegal activities.

US Attorney bags ESGR 'Seven Seals Award'

U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, received the "Seven Seals Award" from the Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

This special award is given for significant achievement in promoting ESGR objectives over a sustained period of time and to honor and recognize employers who assist Guard and Reserve employees.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands has Guard and Reserve employees in both the U.S. Army and Air Guard Reserves and active duty military who serve as Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys (SAUSAs). The U.S. Attorney's Office offers support for service members who are protected by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).

ESGR recognized U.S. Attorney Limtiaco for playing a significant role in ensuring the success and growth of its program and ability to serve both service members and employers. First Assistant U.S. Attorney Belinda Alcantara received the award on behalf of U.S. Attorney Limtiaco at the Annual Employer Awards Ceremony held in April 2012 at the Guam Marriott Hotel. U.S. Attorney Limtiaco was attending the 2012 National Law Enforcement Training on Child Exploitation in Atlanta, Georgia. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
First Assistant U.S. Attorney Belinda Alcantara, fourth from left, receives the award on behalf of U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco at the Annual Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Awards Ceremony held in April 2012 at the Guam Marriott Hotel.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Help for Holocaust victims

In Europe, as the Nazis rose to power, many Jews tried to protect themselves and their families financially by purchasing life insurance policies, annuities, even dowry policies. For decades after World War II, getting payment on those policies—particularly difficult when survivors and heirs had been stripped of all their possessions, including family records—became part of the larger challenge of how to compensate those who suffered at the hands of the Nazis. Two bills in Congress would help families recover money long denied them. They deserve approval.

With the support of the U.S. government, the insurance industry set up an international commission in 1998 through which European insurers agreed to pay out thousands of claims, using relaxed standards of proof. Not all survivors chose to go through the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims or to accept the payments they were offered. Many criticized the insurers for underpaying or unfairly denying claims.

Instead, some filed lawsuits in the U.S. against European insurers doing business here as well. But federal courts rebuffed their attempts, saying they interfered with U.S. foreign policy, which was geared toward securing the European insurance companies' cooperation with the commission and promoting it as the exclusive arena for survivors' claims.

The bills in the House and the Senate would overrule those court decisions and allow survivors to sue. The legislation would also allow states to enact laws (as California once tried to do) to compel European insurers doing business in the state to disclose the names of policyholders from the Holocaust era.

Both the George W. Bush and the Obama administrations have urged courts to disallow individual lawsuits. And the current administration says the legislation would harm the processing of any Holocaust-era claims still underway and cripple relations with countries the U.S. has entered into agreements with regarding a variety of reparation and restitution issues from that period.

Those objections are overblown. The U.S. never guaranteed European insurers that they would be immune from litigation in return for settling claims through the commission. United States officials promised only to file statements in lawsuits arguing that the cases be dismissed in the interest of foreign policy. And they've done that.

Simply allowing survivors to sue is no guarantee of legal success, and many might face arduous battles in court. But that is their risk to take. The U.S. government should not stand in this way.

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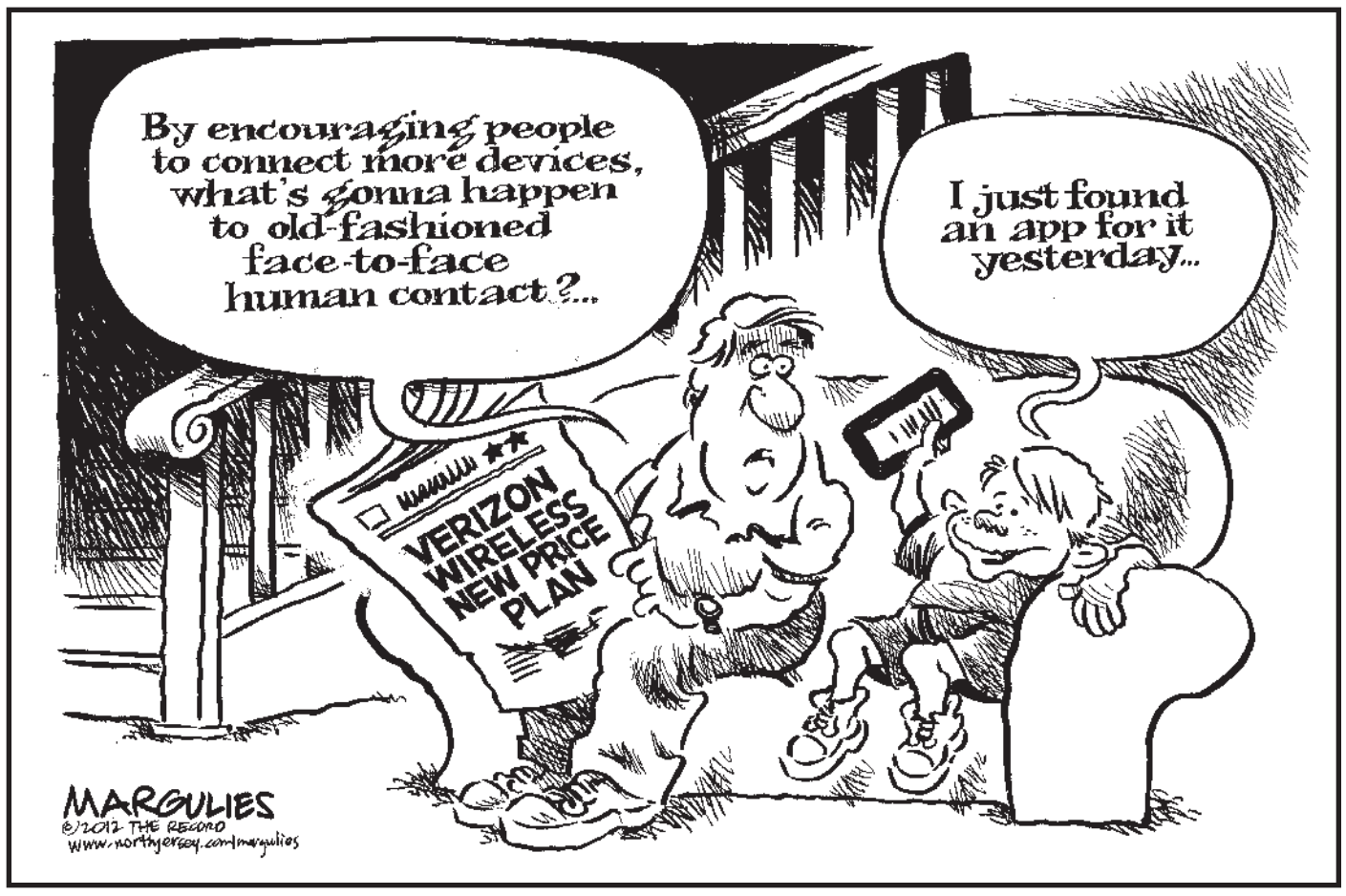
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What will it take to convince Putin to change course?

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Last week—just as new revelations emerged of Syrian regime massacres of women and children—Moscow ordered the harshest measures against its own political opposition since Vladimir Putin first took power.

What do the Syrian and Russian crackdowns have in common? The answer holds the key to preventing a Syrian bloodbath that will unsettle the entire Middle East.

It's no accident that the Kremlin targets domestic critics even as it props up the regime of Bashar al-Assad. Moscow denied Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's charge that it supplied attack helicopters to Damascus. But Russian President Putin is deeply hostile to revolutions from below, whether at home, in former Soviet satellites, or in the Middle East.

In the age of YouTube, Putin, who aspires to European leadership, can't exercise the same brutality at home that his forces displayed in Chechnya—or that he endorses in Syria. That, at least, represents progress.

But his mind-set was fully displayed by this week's raids in Moscow: Russian police banged on doors of key political opposition leaders at 7 a.m. on the day of a major antigovernment demonstration.

Kalashnikov-toting guards stood watch, while investigators seized computers, cellphones, cash, and personal correspondence. All this just after the Kremlin rammed through a law imposing draconian fines on anyone taking part in an "unapproved" demonstration.

In case the threat wasn't sufficiently obvious, editors of the courageous Moscow newspaper Novaya Gazeta revealed this week that Russia's chief investigator (who probes major crimes) had threatened the life of its deputy editor. The newspaper is known for its daring coverage of Kremlin corruption, and two of its star reporters have already been murdered. The editors believe, but can't prove, that the killings were sanctioned by the Kremlin.

Putin publicly derided one of the victims, Anna Politkovskaya, just after her death. She had heroically reported on Russian human-rights violations in Chechnya, where Russian forces killed thousands of civilians in their war against Chechen rebels.

You get the picture: The autocratic Putin detests any sort of rebellion from below. Moreover, he attributes all such revolts to the machinations of outside powers—especially the United States.

To be fair, the Kremlin has good reason to help Assad retain power. Damascus is Moscow's only Mideast ally; it imports Russian weapons and provides Moscow with port facilities on the Mediterranean. Moreover, Russia—like the West—fears an Islamist regime might replace the secular Assad.

But Putin's allergy to popular unrest blinds him to the strength of the Syrian rebellion. As revolts ripple across the Arab world, the majority of Syrian Sunnis have tired of 40 years of dictatorship by the Assad family, and by the minority Alawite (Shiite) sect to which it belongs.

Because it underestimated the strength of the resistance, the Kremlin missed the chance to limit the killing. Given its role as a key Syrian ally, Moscow might have squeezed the Assad regime to acquiesce to a peaceful transition. Instead, Moscow insisted that the rebels acquiesce to a deal that offered only token concessions.

Syrian opposition activists tell me that the Russian Embassy in Washington has scheduled several meetings with different factions of the external opposition. "The Russians offer power-sharing with Assad," says a leading Syrian human-rights and pro-democracy activist, Ammar Abdulhamid. "They want to push the opposition to talk to the regime."

Abdulhamid said Russian Embassy officials "told opposition activists: 'The Americans won't help you. You had better come to us.'"

Syrian activists regard the Russian proposals as a mere face-saver for Assad. Indeed, the Kremlin firmly believes the Assad regime can survive the current upheavals.

"Russia doesn't want Assad to go," I was told by Vitaly Naumkin, director of the Institute of Oriental Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences. "It's impossible to make him go without thousands going with him. It's a regime still supported by a considerable number of people, including Syrian minorities."

Naumkin confirms that Russian officials "don't think the United States is determined to do anything" to unseat Assad. That belief strengthens Putin's conviction that the Syrian revolt can be crushed.

Whether the Russian leader's eyes can be opened to reality is now the key question. Syrian activists here and in Lebanon say Putin's convictions won't change unless he's convinced Russia is backing a loser.

To convince Putin, they say, the United States will have to play a more proactive role, helping to coordinate disparate opposition factions inside and outside Syria, and ensuring that rebel fighters receive weapons to combat tanks and helicopters. (Despite Russian claims, the United States is not directly supplying weapons.)

The activists also say, correctly, that it is too late to prevent armed rebellion—or to save the Assad regime. The only question remaining is whether there might still be a managed transition that prevents all-out sectarian warfare.

The answer to that question depends on the mind-set of Vladimir Putin. So far there are few signs he can be convinced the Syrian revolt is a genuine outpouring that cannot be stopped.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Chinoy Rizal

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

He was a frail looking guy at 5 ft. 2 inches on slightly elevated shoes, of no compelling physical stature, if the life-like statue by Aala creek in Honolulu's Chinatown is to be trusted. But he had a brain that sopped knowledge like a sponge, an imagination that unleashed a robust heart into great heights, and a capability to voraciously soaked into the breath and depth of human experience, reflecting on his exposures and learning as the sound philosopher, accomplished artist, and noted scientist we had known him to be.

Or, so we would like to think, as we recreate again the hero persona *José Protacio Rizal Mercado y Alonso Realonda* in our imagination.

I was a participant in a camp on the grounds of Rizal's *Mi Retiro* Park in Dapitan, in far away Zamboanga in '63. Not yet eighteen, I joined some fifty students from across the country who lived together for two months in bamboo frond dwellings covered with a tarp to keep us dry from the occasional rain, sleeping in folding canvas cot beds, in the first YMCA-sponsored RYLTI - Rizal Youth Leadership Training Institute.

An *open mind* Methodist Christian, I was by then demythologizing *Ra* of the pyramids and *Zeus* of Olympus, along with the Roman *Deus/Jupiter* and the Greek *Iesu*. Schooled in the value-driven teachings of post-WWII American protestant missionaries, Jose Rizal came off as a cardboard figure of Midwestern U.S. liberal virtues.

At Dapitan, in the surroundings where he once labored as a medical doctor in exile, and entertained his paramour, I was grounded into his earthiness more than mesmerized by the grandeur of his much heralded achievements.

I did not yet get past *Rizal* of Austin Coates, the Brit HK magistrate who penned *Myself a Mandarin,* the second foreigner who wrote a Rizal bio*,* when I briefly resided in the Bantug family house in Mandaluyong Metro Manila. Bantugs are relatives of Rizal. Ambeth Ocampo, the then up-and-coming Jesuit-trained, and later, Benedictine monk historian, who was parading his iconoclasm in the acceptable guise of historical recollection during the restrictive Marcos martial law years, did musings through the Bantugmemory. His *Rizal Without the Overcoat* is a bestseller.

Ocampo did much to demythologize the wavy haired Pride of the Malay Race so much so that Lolo Pepe, as Rizal is endearingly referred to by the *masa*, is now recognizably human. He started his 35-year journey150 years ago on June 19, 1861.

Being in China, I usually blend easily and when queried of my origins, I say that my ancestry hails from Fujian but that we had not spoken the language for a long time.

Luckily, English is now a desired language, and my shopkeeper down the street once thanked me for speaking to him in English so he can practice whatever he remembers from 10 years of study, as well as spare him the task of deciphering a foreigner's badly spoken *Putunghua,* which the rest of our foreign teachers attempt to do to gain acceptance among the locals.

It is helpful to be identified as being from *Xia Wei Yi* (Hawaii); the local's experience of Pinoys is confined to kinder teachers and the hotel pubs' rock bands.

Philippine President Noynoy Aquino visited his great grandfather's Hongjian village in Fujian when he came to China. His Lolo Xu Yuhuan's place enshrined the memory of Cory Cojuangco Aquino, Noynoy's mom, who sought the settlement on a trip to China while still the President. The Cojuangcos directly trace their lineage to the village.

One of Rizal's great ancestors also came from China and a family tree is on display in *Bahay Chinoy* (Chinese-Filipino heritage museum) at Manila's Walled City. Traceable to the Cao family of Amoy (Zhou like Zhou En Lai), Fujian, Rizal's mother is often referred to as a Chinese-Spanish mestiza.

In the surgical cauterization of Filipino memory through the abolition of the use of the pre-Spanish writing by the crusading Spanish *padres*, we lost much connection to our Malay heritage and our Fujian roots.

In my grandma's house, I remember China jars and porcelain from the Ming dynasty. The folks of Northern Luzon are kin to southern China's ethnic groups; trade flourished with Canton and Amoy, occasionally interrupted by the celebrated villain Li Ma Hong.

I grew up with a few choice prejudices, mostly against the folks from Zhongguo (China). We called them "Tsonggo," monkeys, a play on the word "unggoy." "Intsik" was a pejorative term, used to delineate bad manners (as in wearing an undershirt to the dining table), as being called "Judio" by the European Christians.

The appropriation of the Chinoy heritage through Rizal and the Cojuangcos relieves the native soul from the memory of the ugly searing of its communal memory in the service of European racial and cultural supremacy.

Like Lolo Pepe, we can individually re-appropriate our Chinoy heritage, live our lives as graciously as he did, and can die our death as gloriously as he did as well, anywhere in the world, even if his forced exit proved to be more dramatic than our chosen *valedictum in gloriam.* It would be redundant to wish for more.

Didog Na Mina'añau

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Hu akanteteha haf' gaige gi hinassun i tautau na tiempu. Ti mapot hu soda' sa' sumen oppan ni achog' silensiun chatagmag gi señgsoñg siha. Mampos te'ug i chathinassun todus na esta chumechefla gi aire.

Megai man-ma'añau haf' mamamaila' gi oppan na rimulinon lina'la' miserable ni nina' in'krusu ni baban ekonomia. De dios! Kada biradata man-matrukus hit subridan presiun nesessidat, gaselina, utilidat, amot, yan kontodu hanom.

Yangin hagas i prohimu ha upus i gualu, gaige pagu na duru man-dismonta, man-guasan yan mananom sa' ennau ha' kase solu koyentura 'nai siña ha prebeniye familiaña.

Memegaiña na kinahulu' atdau nubladu ya muñeru i ma'lag ha'ane. I minachum atdau, mas ha fugu' siñienteta 'nai chinaflulun ni atiluñg na mapagahes i sanlagu. Esta silensiu ayu na kanta i "Don't worry, be happy...." Mampos bula na biahe trompison "unhappy".

Megai na cho'chu' man-mahuchum 'nai man-hanau i bisnis siha. Megai man-tai che'chu' ginen este na sinisede. Megaidumibibina haf' futturon primet na gima' familia gi halom este na rimulinu. Manadan famaguon man-dinagau ñaihon planun niha pot maribaha mas i fondun umeskuela (scholarship). Yangin siña, cha'mu sesede na un' malañgu sa' guaguan lokue i apas hospitat yan amot siha.

Hu lie' antes finapos didog na pinadese. Lau taya' parehuña i presente na ha'ilas gi katkuet kinalamten. Kulan chetnut ni hinetdan: ti amtiyun.

I mina'añau gi tautau chettun gi hinasson niha ya umakatga, sin ditension, este na sentimientu guatu gi lugat botasion siha pagu na Nobiembre. Yangin i man-ma'gas publiku ti amtiyun chetnot niha, pues buenu, maila' tana' suha 'sino hita gi finu' i kuentus "man-dada'da'".

■■■

'Nai esta i fuetsan pottanmonedan familia maliñgu, todu ma'tut i hafa hagas tafafahan sa' malimitte gi mas man-presisu na nesessidat siha. Estague' na eskalera i memegaiña pumadedese pagu.

Kuandu menos i mas mamoble na tautau-ta. Buente man-gai suette ayudun federat. Lau i pumalu ni man-gaige gi rayan ayudu lau ti man-kualifikau i mas pumadedese chinatsaga.

Mas man-inaminasa 'an ma-utut i oran che'chu niha. Gaige ha' gi hiyuñg raya lau ti siña gume'halom sa' ti kualifikau manae' ayudu.

Este na chinatsaga debi mohon i lehislatura yan administrasion ensegidas umalistuye pot para u atan haf' mas na fina' satbasion siña mana' guahaye. Lau oppan finatane' gi entalu' niha mina ti siña machogue i mauleg para i publiku.

Klaru na ti makomprende haf' che'chu offisiat publiku lau kada unu man-hula' para u chogue obligasioña gi todu asuntu ni mauleg para i linahyan.

Ti este masusesede. Pot esso, mas maluñu i linala' tautau-ta sin presisu. I kuestion: Kau para ta repite talu este na mañan offisiat pagu na eleksion?

■■■

I minachum atdau mampos triste finaposña. Ti sinede ni potput yan atiliuñg na magapahes fumatta i bonitun kulotña antes de u faliñgu gi sanlagu. Gi ge'halom, i tautau lokue' mampos man-triste matan niha kulan mohon pa'gu mafattu notisia pot finatai gi familia. Ti yahu i ta pokakate pagu. Mampos silensiu i mamamaila' na fina' guafen milag achu' botkan. Todu ha soda' siempre u soñge sin ditension. Haf' problemaña este? Kontodu hita hafa' apu!

■■■

Sige un' lancheru umaguaguat na mai'es tinanomña lau suni man-doku'. Mafaisen para u pega unai gi papa' bintanaña para u lie' kau gai lastru gi sigiente oga'an. Mattu i otru lancheru guihe na puennge ya ha fedus i fina' plantau na unai. Dispues de mañgusecha, ha bali tatte pot not u anog lastroña.

Kada ratu ha mente na mai'es tinanomña ya umapunu gi haf' pinegaña. Para bai' apagat mohon na u para mumaneska estake togpuñg kosake siña ha pulan i fan gualu'an ya cha'ña si pindehu na u fattu mamega ta'lu suni lau mai'es matanom.

■■■

Estaba si Iku yan Duñg gi puntan pantalan iya Susupe mumaneneska. 'Nai esta maipe, ha yute'gue' si Iku. Gi biradaña hulu', ha lagnos i petnan manog ginen betsaña ya sige ha ñgañgas.

Finaisen as Duñg manu 'nai masuettegue' petnan manog.

Ilegña si Iku, "Yute' hau pare sa' duru man-gupot guihe papa'!"

Sin ditension, ha yute'gue' si Duñg. Ti apmam sige hulu'. Todu kahaga' mataña. Mayamag.

Finaisen as Iku haf' guaha, ilegña, "Lapekaras pare sa' duru man-mumu ni man-bulachon niha".

Era, ha yute'gue' si Duñg gi na'tata na lugat. De dios!

■■■

I ekonomia kulan un' malañgu gi ICU. Un' dalalai hilu gumugu'ut ha'aniña lau ta pacha puntan adeñgña ya ta faisen papa', "Mamauleg ha'?" A`Saina uttimu agonias ya para ta atrebi kuestion inosenteria?

■■■

Sige i amiguhu Magoo chumaleg tuyan 'nai in' diskukute kareran man-sabiu na sakan 'an mahuyuñg para u fatta i hagas dinage ni mana' mamtu' gi halom sekus niha.

Ilegña na siempre u fan maisen, "Ta'lu un' biahe".

Ineppe as Pindeha, "Dinancheña, 'polu esta otru biahe'".

"Hombre, na'e chansa is los fatigau".

"Otru biahe mas propiu na ineppe!"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

'Tool Lending Library'

The Joeten Kiyu Public Library's five-year plan is commendable. Would it be practical also for our public library to consider engaging in "Tool Lending Library" that would make available tools for loans in the same way the library system loans books to its patrons?

Many public libraries do offer this type of services, and the CNMI could do the same. If Mr. Gonzales has the time to check this out, may I suggest he visits the Oakland Public Library website about this. I thought I offer this suggestion as a food for thought on practicality that would put to good use the available learning resources already existing in institutions such as a public library and the educational system in the CNMI.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

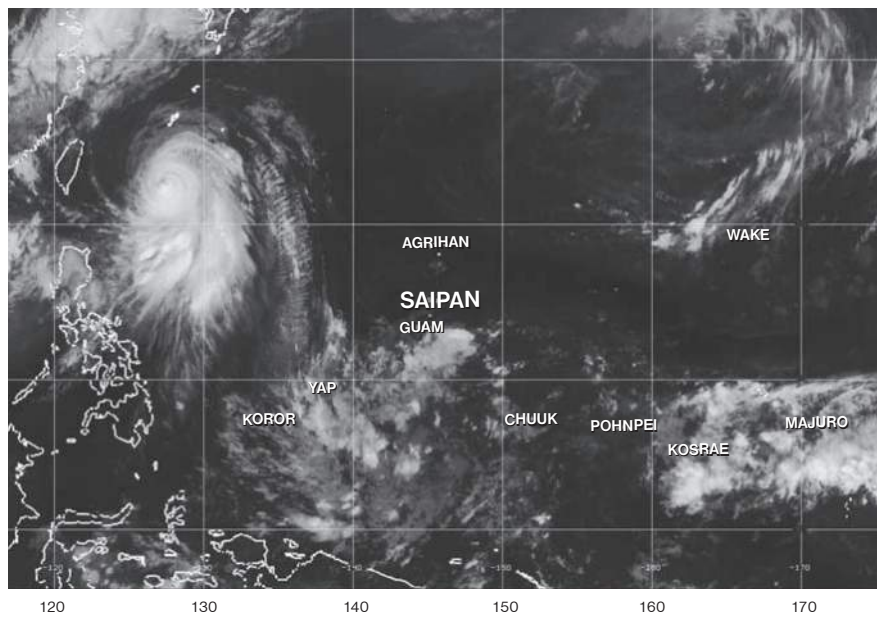
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼75
Yap	Showers	▲91	▼78
Chuuk	Showers	▲86	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲87	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲63	▼56
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼83
Honolulu	Showers	▲84	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼53
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲89	▼82
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲85	▼79
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼68
Osaka	Showers	▲81	▼69
Paris	Showers	▲73	▼59
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼67
Rome	Sunny	▲92	▼68
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼47
San Francisco	Sunny	▲71	▼54
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼67
Tokyo	Showers	▲83	▼70
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼74

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

South winds converging toward Typhoon Guchol are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms well west of the Marianas between 15N and 25N from 130E to 133E. A surface trough stretches southeastward from near Yap at 10N137E to 2N141E with scattered showers with isolated thunderstorms within 250 miles of the trough. Convergent east winds are producing scattered showers mainly southeast of Guam within 75 miles of a line running from 14N147E to 10N144E. Converging trade winds are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms around Kosrae, Kwajelein and Majuro between 2N and 10N from 161E to 180. Cloudiness and patchy rain associated with a frontal boundary are seen north of Wake Island or within 200 miles north of a line from 18N160E to 18N164E to 25N173E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:37 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
7:22 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:53 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
9:58 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Thursday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:14 AM	6:30 PM
Wednesday	6:05 AM	7:18 PM
Thursday	6:57 AM	8:04 PM
Friday	7:49 AM	8:49 PM
Saturday	8:41 AM	9:32 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)				**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)**			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5	UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily	UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1	0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)				**GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
				UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM	0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT	0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM				
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN	0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
				0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Sigh of relief at G20 summit over Greek election

LOS CABOS, Mexico (AP)—World leaders expressed relief on the eve of a G20 summit that Greek voters had stepped back from the edge and elected a government that supports painful reforms in exchange for a European Union bailout of the country's troubled economy.

Fears that Greek voters would instead choose an anti-bailout government and possibly force the country's exit from the currency union had haunted the gathering in this sunbaked Mexican resort, where the crisis facing Greece, Spain, Italy and other European economies have taken center stage.

Instead, world leaders said they saw Sunday's vote as a boost for European unity even in the face of economic turbulence.

"The Greek people have spoken," European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said in a joint statement. "We salute the courage and resilience of the Greek citizens, fully aware of the sacrifices which are demanded from them to redress the Greek economy and build new, sustainable growth for the country."

As the pair indicated, the path ahead for Greece, and by extension the bigger economies of Italy and Spain, remains unclear and market turmoil could erupt again at virtually any time. A Greek exit from the currency union had threatened potentially catastrophic consequences for other ailing European nations and the global economy.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy lauded the Greek vote while speaking to reporters in Mexico, saying "we have improved a lot since we've entered the euro."

"What's happened in Greece is good news," Rajoy said. "The Greek citizens have done the right thing. The European Union is going to help Greece, because the European Union is and must be a joint project that seeks the well-being and the material improvement of all European citizens."

Chinese Vice Finance Minister Zhu Guangyao stressed the importance of stability in the wake of the Greek vote.

"We hope this new government will be on a solid footing and can maintain stability since stability is important to promoting development," Zhu said. "We believe that Greece should stay within the euro zone."

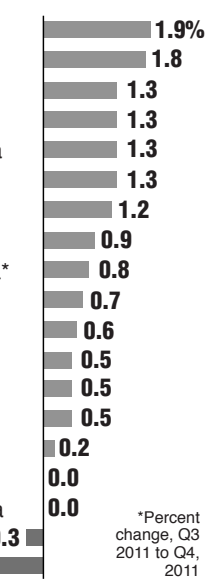
U.S. President Barack Obama, set to arrive Sunday night, and the summit's host, Mexican President Felipe Calderon, have been downplaying expectations for the summit.

Obama is seeking bolder, swifter signals from Europe that it will contain its financial mess and keep it from torpedoing the U.S. economy and his re-election chances along with it.

Calderon has given a more optimistic message, including that he expects the G20 to produce record donations to the International Monetary Fund, exceeding member states' pledges of $430 billion this year and bolstering its ability to conduct more bailouts in Europe.

Slow growth in G-20 nations

Percent change in GDP for the G-20 nations; the summit of the world's most important economies is June 18-19, in Los Cabos, Mexico:



AP

In this photo released by Oxfam, activists wearing masks representing G20 leaders, from left to right, Mexico's President Felipe Calderon, Germany's Prime Minister Angela Merkel, China's President Hu Jintao, South African President Jacob Zuma, French President Francois Hollande, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, U.S. President Barack Obama and Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff, sit on a table overlooking the Pacific Ocean in Los Cabos, Sunday, June 17, 2012.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Asian stocks rally after Greek vote eases fears

BANGKOK (AP)—Asian stock markets climbed Monday after elections in Greece eased fears of global financial turmoil, but analysts warned that the economic crisis shaking the 17 nations in the euro common currency was far from over. Stock markets rejoiced at the narrow victory by Greek conservatives who favor upholding an austerity program that their recession-mired country entered into in exchange for a financial bailout from international lenders. The results relaxed fears that a country will stop using the euro currency and return to the drachma, unleashing a host of disruptive financial consequences in Europe and beyond.

Oil near $85 as Greece concerns ease after vote

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil rose to near $85 a barrel Monday in Asia after Greek election results suggested the country will stay in the euro common currency, reducing the risk of a major upheaval in financial markets and the world economy. Benchmark oil for July delivery was up 80 cents to $84.83 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 12 cents to settle at $84.03 in New York on Friday.

China promises Taiwan investors bank loans

BEIJING (AP)—China has promised Taiwanese investors up to $95 billion in loans from state banks as it tries to build closer ties with the self-ruled island that Beijing claims as its own territory. The director of the Cabinet's Taiwan Affairs Office made the announcement at a weekend forum on mainland-Taiwan relations, according to the official Xinhua News Agency. The two sides separated in 1949 amid civil war and have no official ties but are rapidly building commercial relations. The communist mainland has announced a series of concessions in recent years to Taiwanese companies and farmers in an effort to build public support on the island for eventual unification.

Euro crisis far from over, stock analysts warn

WASHINGTON (AP)—A slim victory for the main conservative party in an election in Greece should relax fears that a country will stop using the euro for the first time and possibly unleash global financial turmoil.

But when it comes to Greek politics—and European economic policy—it's never that easy. So the bumpy ride for financial markets isn't over yet.

The conservative New Democracy party, which supports a bailout agreement Greece agreed to earlier this year, appeared to win enough votes Sunday to form a ruling coalition with another pro-bailout party.

The result forestalled what financial analysts had most feared—a victory for Syriza, a leftist party that objects to the bailout terms. That could have sped Greece toward an exit from the euro and the world economy toward an unpredictable shock.

Dow Jones industrial average futures were up 85 points on Sunday night, suggesting the market could open higher Monday. But the analysts cautioned that any surge is likely to be brief.

Neil MacKinnon, global macro strategist at the investment bank VTB Capital, told his clients that the election result, combined with a Federal Reserve meeting this week at which investors hope for measures to stimulate the U.S. economy, could lift stocks.

MacKinnon cautioned, however, that there are still too many problems in Europe, particularly in Spain, plus evidence that the global economy is cooling, to justify a celebration.

"I think investors should treat any sort of knee-jerk rally with caution," MacKinnon said in an interview.

Investors learned that lesson last week. On June 9, European countries agreed to lend Spain up to $125 billion to save its banks. That was a Saturday. On Monday, the Dow Jones industrial average opened up almost 100 points but closed down 142.

Borrowing costs for the Spanish government crept closer to 7 percent, the level beyond which economists say countries can no longer finance their debt, throughout the week. They also inched higher for Italy. Those countries have the fourth- and third-largest economies among the 17 countries that use the euro.

So when stock and bond markets open around the world on Monday, a Greek doomsday will have been avoided, but there will still be plenty for investors to fret about.

GOP on health care: Repeal quickly, replace slowly

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congressional Republicans intend to seek quick repeal of any parts of the health care law that survive a widely anticipated Supreme Court ruling, but don't plan to push replacement measures until after the fall elections or perhaps 2013.

Instead, GOP lawmakers cite recent announcements that some insurance companies will retain a few of the law's higher-profile provisions as evidence that quick legislative action is not essential. Those are steps that officials say Republicans quietly urged in private conversations with the industry.

Once the Supreme Court issues a ruling, "the goal is to repeal anything that is left standing," said Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., a member of the party's leadership.

Beyond that, "we ought to go step by step to lower the cost" of health care, he added, a formula repeated by numerous other Republicans interviewed in recent days.

Across the political aisle, neither President Barack Obama nor congressional Democrats have said how they will react to a high court ruling that could wipe out the legislation they worked so hard to enact.

"We're not spending a whole bunch of time planning for contingencies," Obama said this spring at the annual meeting of The Associated Press. He expressed confidence the court would uphold the law, and neither he nor his aides have said what fallback plans are under discussion. "We will be prepared in any eventuality," White House aide David Plouffe said Sunday on ABC's "This Week," although he declined to elaborate.

Among Republicans, aides to Speaker John Boehner, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell and other key lawmakers have convened a series of meetings in recent weeks to plan a post-ruling strategy.

A Supreme Court ruling is expected within the next two weeks on a challenge to the law, which has drawn fierce opposition among most Republicans for its requirement that most individuals carry health insurance.

Nation

Romney won't say he'll overturn immigration order

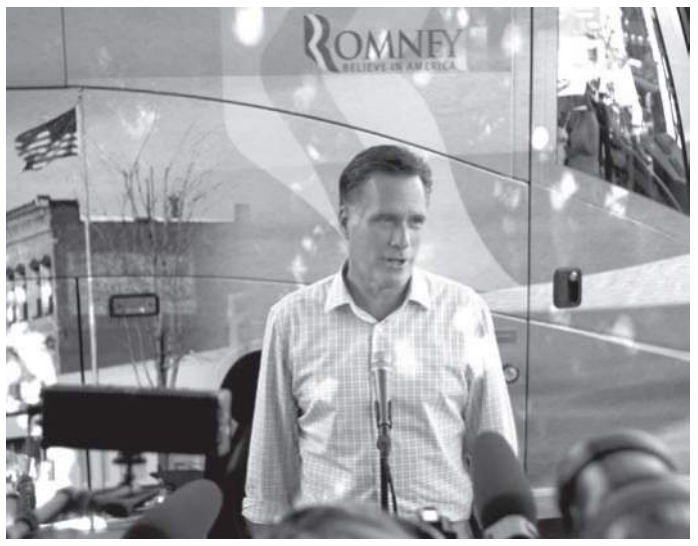
TROY, Ohio (AP)—Mitt Romney in an interview aired Sunday repeatedly refused to say that he would overturn President Barack Obama's new policy allowing some young illegal immigrants to stay in the United States. He claimed Obama's decision was political, while senior White House adviser David Plouffe said the move wasn't motivated by politics.

The Republican presidential candidate was asked several times in an interview on CBS' "Face the Nation" whether he would overturn the executive order issued Friday if he's elected in the fall. He refused to directly answer.

"It would be overtaken by events," Romney said when pressed for the second time by moderator Bob Schieffer during the interview taped Saturday while the former Massachusetts governor's bus tour stopped in Pennsylvania.

He explained the order would become irrelevant "by virtue of my putting in place a long-term solution, with legislation which creates law that relates to these individuals such that they know what their setting is going to be, not just for the term of a president but on a permanent basis."

Romney's Rust Belt tour swept through Ohio on Sunday, where he appeared with House Speaker John Boehner at the speaker's hometown in Troy.



AP

In this June 15, 2012 file photo, Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney makes a statement on immigration, in Milford, N.H.

Protesters shouted throughout his abbreviated campaign speech there, yelling "Romney go home!" as Romney campaign staff moved speakers into the group of protesters in attempt to drown them out in return.

The protest came just a few minutes after top Obama adviser David Axelrod posted a tweet saying he's opposed to efforts to shout down Romney's bus tour. Obama's Chicago campaign has been helping distribute information about protest events—former Democratic Gov. Ed Rendell held a protest outside a Wawa on Saturday that prompted Romney to shift his tour to a different Wawa store than originally planned.

"I strongly condemn heckling along Mitt's route," Axelrod tweeted. "Let voters hear BOTH candidates and decide."

After the protests, though, Romney's event Sunday ended on a high note—he climbed into the front seat of a 1961 Rambler, the car that helped his father turn around American Motors. George Romney's picture was in the old brochure still with the car. Romney sat in the front seat with the 20-year-old owner, Michael Scheib, who leaned over to tell Romney to "scare `em, press them horn."

Romney honked, and the surprised crowd laughed.

Earlier in the day, Romney attended a Father's Day pancake breakfast with two of his sons and five of his 18 grandchildren. He told a rain-soaked crowd that the weather was a metaphor for the country and that "three and half years of dark clouds are about to part." At a second event in Newark, near Columbus, Romney told a cheering crowd that the president's slogan had changed.

"Last time when he was running for president his campaign theme was hope and change. This time he's hoping to change the subject because the American people are not happy," said Romney, speaking for about nine minutes as Occupy Wall Street protesters yelled from a nearby sidewalk.

In the TV interview, Romney suggested that Obama's decision on immigration was motivated by politics. "If he felt seriously about this he should have taken action when he had a Democrat House and Senate, but he didn't. He saves these sort of things until four and a half months before the general election," he said.

Plouffe, the Obama adviser, sent by the White House to four of the talk shows, contended that Obama's action, which appeals to Hispanic voters who are critical to the president's re-election effort, was not "a political move."

Rodney King, whose beating led to LA riots, dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—His beating stunned the nation, left Los Angeles smoldering and helped reshape race relations and police tactics. And in a quavering voice on national television, Rodney King pleaded for peace while the city burned.

But peace never quite came for King—not after the fires died down, after two of the officers who broke his skull multiple times were punished, after Los Angeles and its flawed police department moved forward. His life, which ended Sunday at age 47 after he was pulled from the bottom of his swimming pool, was a continual struggle even as the city he helped change moved on.

The images—preserved on an infamous grainy video—of the black driver curled up on the ground while four white officers clubbed him over 50 times with batons—became a national symbol of police brutality in 1991. More than a year later, when the officers' acquittals touched off one of the most destructive race riots in history, his scarred face and softspoken question—"Can we all get along?"—spurred the nation to confront its difficult racial history.

AP

This April 13, 2012 file photo shows Rodney King posing for a portrait in Los Angeles.

But while Los Angeles race relations and the city's police department made strides forward, King kept coming before police and courts, struggling with alcohol addiction and arrests, periodically reappearing publicly for a stint on "Celebrity Rehab" or a celebrity boxing match. He spent the last months of his life promoting a memoir he titled "The Riot Within: From Rebellion to Redemption."

Ex-Indian army major takes flight, kills family

SELMA, Calif. (AP)—At 6:15 a.m. last Saturday, Avtar Singh dialed 911 from his home in the Central Valley farming town 200 miles north of Los Angeles. He told police he had just killed four people and was about to kill himself. Then the line disconnected.

Selma police found Singh, 47, dead in his living room. His 36-year-old wife and three-year-old son were dead in a bed in the master bedroom. His 17-year-old son lay dead in his bedroom. A third son, 15 years old, was barely alive in another room and later died. All had been shot in the head.

The burst of bloodletting that wiped out Singh's family in their modest one-story house marked the end of a nine-year evasion of authorities for a once-feared military officer from India. Accused of murdering a human rights lawyer in his homeland, Singh took flight, living briefly in Canada, then the United States, building a family and a small trucking business along the way.

The two governments eventually found out about his past. But Singh stayed one step ahead of halting efforts to return him to India to face justice. He managed to stay free despite worldwide Interpol notices that he was wanted for murder, despite his arrest by U.S. immigration authorities for being here illegally and despite his prosecution by local authorities for domestic violence.

Even so, his family's immigration problems, strained finances and fears he would face extradition to India were weighing heavily on him, an associate said.

"When you look back on it, there were tell-tale signs," said Charles Stephens, a Fresno immigration consultant who assisted Singh with the family's asylum case. "He was basically on edge, anxious."

During the last year, Singh's past caught up with him.

In 2011, he was arrested after his wife said he choked her, and police discovered Singh was a former Indian Army major who was wanted for the 1996 killing of Jalil Andrabi, a lawyer and prominent human rights advocate in the disputed Himalayan region of Indian-controlled Kashmir.

Stiff winds fuel Colo. wildfire; looting a concern

DENVER (AP)—Crews in northern Colorado are facing powerful winds as they battle a blaze that has scorched about 86 square miles of mountainous forest land and destroyed at least 181 homes, the most in state history. Meanwhile, local authorities are focusing on another concern—looting.

The destructiveness of the High Park Fire burning 15 miles west of Fort Collins surpassed the Fourmile Canyon wildfire, which destroyed 169 homes west of Boulder in September 2010.

More than 1,630 personnel are working on the Fort Collins-area fire, which was sparked by lightning and is 45 percent contained.

Julie Berney with the Larimer County Sheriff's Office said firefighters can expect winds of 30 mph with gusts of up to 50 mph Sunday. Some rain moved through Saturday evening, but it wasn't enough to quell the fire.

"The problem is that when you have a fire like this, even if it rains it evaporates before it hits the ground," Berney said.

On Sunday afternoon, high winds prompted fire managers to ground all helicopters working on the blaze and to send 96 notices to residents, ordering the immediate evacuation of the Hewlett Gulch Subdivision in the Poudre Canyon area north of the fire. It was unclear how many homes were affected.

A red flag warning has been issued for the area until 8 p.m. Sunday, and temperatures could reach 90 degrees, the hottest day since the fire was reported June 9.

But incident commander Bill Hahnenberg said he was pleased with the firefighters' progress, while also acknowledging that high winds could be a test.

"A scenario could be we'll lose some line, and then we just go after it the next day and the next day," he said. "We're going to do everything we can to protect facilities, and we're prepared to do that."

Asia

World close to ending polio, yet it's a tough foe

AZIZ KHAN GHARI, Pakistan (AP)—Less than four months ago the world was cheered to learn that India had gone a full year with no new cases of polio—a landmark that left only Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria on the World Health Organization's list of countries where the disease is endemic.

But the battle is far from over, judging by the WHO's latest expressions of alarm. It says that in both Nigeria and Afghanistan the number is creeping up, while budget shortfalls are jeopardizing the effort to hold polio at bay in 24 other high-risk countries.

Right now the numbers of new infections are small. But Nigeria's total has jumped to 38 in the first five months of 2012 from just 10 in the same period of last year. Afghanistan's went from three to seven. Only Pakistan's number fell back, from 43 to 18.

The polio virus, which usually infects children in unsanitary conditions, attacks the nerves and can kill or paralyze. It can spread widely and unnoticed before it starts crippling children. On average about one in 200 cases will result in paralysis.

In Pakistan's poor northwest one of the newest victims, 13-month old Fariha, cried out as her 6-year-old sister Sana struggled to place her on the floor, mindful of her tiny legs wrapped in plastic braces.

A laborer's daughter, Fariha was infected six months after birth. She has to be carried everywhere. Twice a day her mother exercises her legs, medicines are provided free and a health worker visits occasionally. The braces were donated by a German clinic.

There are no guarantees that Fariha will fully recover. Most of the new polio cases in Pakistan are in the northwest, where an insurgency rages, making it difficult for health workers to reach tens of thousands of children.

Elsewhere in the world, a growing number of cases are being discovered and traced back to Pakistan and Nigeria. While the numbers are low today, WHO spokesman Oliver Rosenbauer warned that the disease can quickly regain strength. "If a polio-free country becomes re-infected, and the virus gets into an area with low population immunity levels, we have seen time and again that it can take off like wildfire," he told The Associated Press.

Both money and manpower is in short supply and if either runs out before the disease can be eradicated in the three holdouts, an epidemic will follow, says Rosenbauer.

"Polio eradication is at a tipping point between success and failure," he said.

"We have the emergency plans in place through end-2013, and full implementation and financing of the plans could well result in a polio-free world by that time," he said.

Or there could be a worldwide resurgence "and within 10 years we could again see 200,000 cases occur each and every year."

Rosenbauer said WHO's polio eradication campaign needs $2 billion over the next 18 months. So far it is short $940 million, forcing it to cut back programs in 24 high-risk countries.

Every Pakistani and Afghan child under age 5 must be vaccinated several times a year by health workers whose work is often hampered by ignorance, religious extremism, natural disasters and war.

Then there is international travel. "We have seen time and again that polio can spread from these areas to re-infect faraway countries," said Rosenbauer. Between 2009 and 2011, about half of the 3,506 cases worldwide were in previously polio-free countries, he said. Polio was imported into Indonesia for the first time in a decade in 2005 and traced back to Nigeria, and last year, an outbreak in western China originated with a virus from Pakistan.

One problem is Muslim militants who try to block inoculation campaigns by portraying them as a conspiracy to sterilize and reduce the world's Muslim population.

But in Pakistan and Afghanistan clerics and tribal elders have been recruited to support polio vaccinations, opening up areas of the two countries previously inaccessible to health workers.

China official says scandal damaged party's image

BEIJING (AP)—A scandal that toppled one of China's most powerful politicians dealt a heavy blow to the reputation of the nation and its ruling Communist Party, a senior official said Monday, in an unusually candid appraisal of China's messiest political upheaval in years.

Zhang Dejiang, who replaced the disgraced Bo Xilai as leader of the southwestern city of Chongqing, said party officials need to study the case, take lessons and support the national leadership's handling of it.

The Bo case "brought serious damage to the image of the country and the party," Zhang, a member of the party's ruling Politburo, told delegates to Chongqing's local Communist Party congress.

"Seriously study and learn the spirit of the center's orders and reflect on the conclusions," Zhang said.

Bo was dismissed in March after his former police chief fled to a U.S. consulate and divulged suspicions that Bo's wife Gu Kailai had been involved in the death last November of a British businessman, Neil Heywood.

Zhang gave no updates on the investigation.

Little has been reported by China's state-run media about Bo since his dismissal—an apparent attempt to keep the lurid details of the scandal from marring a once-a-decade national leadership transition just months away. Bo, once a rising star, had been expected to be a key figure in that reshuffle.

Zhang's remarks diverged from previous statements in acknowledging the damage it had wrought. Earlier editorials in state media focused on saying the party acted correctly in stripping Bo of his posts and pursuing the case through the legal process.

Recent weeks have seen the official media go silent on the case, a sign that the party wished to quash any further discussion until it makes clear exactly how it plans to proceed.

Bo is in the hands of the party's internal discipline and inspection commission, which is expected to issue a statement soon about his infractions. That would open the way for a court trial, not likely to occur before next year, with charges possibly including obstructing police work and abuse of power. Thus far, Bo has been accused only of grievous but unspecified rules violations.

Zhang said Bo's case had also had a "severe impact on the reform and development" of Chongqing, a mega-city of 32 million people which oversees a region the size of Austria.

"Everybody agreed that ... that there should be an earnest search for work-related problems so improvements can be made," Zhang said, according to a transcript of his remarks posted on the city's official news website.

He also tried to separate Bo from Chongqing's sizzling economic growth, praising the public and remaining cadres for the city's success in recent years.

AP

In this Monday, May 28, 2012 photo, Afghan polio victim Samiulah, 15, tests his new prosthetic at the ICRC physical rehabilitation center in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Philippine officials, rebels fail to break impasse

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine government negotiators and communist rebels have failed to break a yearlong impasse in peace talks as bloody clashes continue to rage in the country, officials said Sunday.

Government negotiator Alexander Padilla said the two sides met in the Norwegian capital of Oslo on Thursday and Friday to discuss differences that have stalled talks on settling the 43-year Marxist rebellion. Norway, which has been brokering the talks, arranged the meetings.

However, key differences, including a rebel demand for the release of jailed comrades, remained unresolved.

The government and the guerrillas agreed to continue "meaningful discussions of concerns and issues" aimed at reviving the talks and attaining "a just and lasting peace," they said in a statement after the meetings.

"We're still far apart," Padilla told The Associated Press by telephone from Oslo.

The Philippine government renewed a call for some form of cease-fire to foster negotiations similar to a truce that has held for years between Filipino troops and Muslim guerrillas in the country's south, he said.

In the latest violence, suspected communist New People's Army guerrillas killed an army officer and wounded three soldiers in a land mine attack in southern Compostela Valley province late Friday, the military said.

The attack targeted an army truck carrying the soldiers near a church and school in Bantacan village and showed the rebels did not care if nearby civilians were exposed to harm, regional army spokesman Lt. Col. Lyndon Paniza said.

Chief rebel negotiator Luis Jalandoni said the guerrillas are ready to resume talks if the government addresses several issues, including the release of 14 rebel consultants who have been arrested in recent years. The rebels say the consultants are covered by a government guarantee shielding them from arrests during the talks.

The government said it refused to release the rebel consultants because the guerrillas have failed to produce proof they are covered by the immunity.

A list of 75 rebel consultants was deposited in a Dutch vault in 1996 by both sides. It was discovered last year that two diskettes containing the list were damaged and the details could no longer be retrieved, officials said.

Battle setbacks, surrenders and infighting have weakened the Maoist rebels but the military still regards them as the country's most serious security threat. The group is listed as a terrorist organization by the United States and the European Union.

ASIAN BRIEFS

After Philippines, China leaves disputed shoal

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—China says it will pull out its fishing boats from a disputed shoal in the South China Sea following a similar move by the Philippines. The standoff at Scarborough Shoal erupted in April when the Philippines accused Chinese fishermen of poaching inside its exclusive economic zone. China claims sovereignty over the tiny, uninhabited shoal and deployed paramilitary vessels to protect fishermen. The Philippine president ordered the pullout of the two remaining Philippine government ships over the weekend, citing bad weather.

Boat sinks off eastern Indonesia, 14 missing

AMBON, Indonesia (AP)—Police say rescuers are searching the ocean off eastern Indonesia for 14 missing people after a wooden boat sank in high waves. Local police chief Capt. Zet Riry says the boat was carrying 27 people from Maluku's provincial capital, Ambon, to the nearby island of Buru when it capsized Sunday after being battered by a 3-meter-high (10-foot-high) wave. He says 13 people were rescued. The 14 missing people included the captain.

Bomb kills 4 students on bus in SW Pakistan

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani police official says a motorcycle bomb has ripped through a university bus in southwestern Pakistan, killing four students and injuring 50 people. Qazi Abdul Wahid says Monday's bombing targeted a bus belonging to the Baluchistan IT university. The attack took place in an upscale neighborhood of the provincial capital, Quetta. Wahid would not say who was suspected in the attack but security agencies hold Baloch nationalists responsible for such bombings.

World

Islamist claims victory in Egypt president vote

CAIRO (AP)—The Muslim Brotherhood declared early Monday that its candidate, Mohammed Morsi, won Egypt's presidential election, which would be the first victory of an Islamist as head of state in the stunning wave of protests demanding democracy that swept the Middle East the past year. But the military handed itself the lion's share power over the new president, sharpening the possibility of confrontation.

With parliament dissolved and martial law effectively in force, the generals made themselves Egypt's lawmakers, gave themselves control over the budget and will determine who writes the permanent constitution that will define the country's future.

But as they claimed victory over Hosni Mubarak's last prime minister Ahmed Shafiq after a deeply polarizing election, the Brotherhood challenged the military's power grab. The group insisted on Sunday that it did not recognize the dissolution of parliament or the military's interim constitution—or its right to oversee the drafting of a new one.

That pointed to a potential struggle over spheres of authority between Egypt's two strongest forces. The Brotherhood has campaigned on a platform of bringing Egypt closer to a form of Islamic rule, but the military's grip puts it in a position to block that. Instead any conflict would likely center on more basic questions of power.

In a victory speech at his campaign headquarters, Morsi clearly sought to assuage the fears of the large sector of Egyptians that the Brotherhood will try to impose stricter provisions of Islamic law. He said he seeks "stability, love and brotherhood for the Egyptian civil, national, democratic, constitutional and modern state" and made no mention of Islamic law.

"Thank God who led successfully us to this blessed revolution. Thank God who guided the people of Egypt to this correct path, the road of freedom, democracy," the bearded, 60-year-old U.S.-educated engineer declared.

He vowed to all Egyptians, "men, women, mothers, sisters, laborers, students ... all its political factions, the Muslims, the Christians" to be "a servant for all of them."

"We are not about taking revenge or settling scores. We are all brothers of this nation, we own it together, and we are equal in rights and duties."

The Brotherhood officials and supporters in the room were ebullient over the turn of fate: The fundamentalist group that was banned for decades and repeatedly subjected to crackdowns under Mubarak's rule now held the chair that their nemesis was ousted from by last year's 18 days of mass protests. The uprising was launched by secular, leftist young activists, joined only later by the Brotherhood's leadership as millions took to the street, seeking an end to the authoritarian, corrupt regime.

Now some in Brotherhood were ready to challenge the generals. "Down with military rule," the supporters chanted.

Final official results are not expected until Thursday. The Brotherhood's declaration was based on results announced by election officials at individual counting centers, where each campaign has representatives who compile the numbers and make them public before the formal announcement. The Brotherhood's early, partial counts proved generally accurate in last month's first round vote.

The group said Morsi took 51.8 percent of the vote to Shafiq's 48.1 percent out of 24.6 million votes cast, with 98 percent of the more than 13,000 poll centers counted. There was no immediate comment from the Shafiq campaign.

AP

In this Sunday, May 20, 2012 file photo, the Muslim Brotherhood's presidential candidate Mohammed Morsi holds a rally in Cairo, Egypt.

Syrian activists warn of dire conditions in Homs

BEIRUT (AP)—Syrian troops intensified shelling of rebel-held neighborhoods in Homs Sunday according to activists who said humanitarian conditions in the city are growing dire and pressed for evacuation of 1,000 endangered families and dozens of wounded who cannot get adequate medical care.

Homs has been under siege for more than a week, part of a major escalation of violence around the country that forced the 300-strong U.N. observer force in Syria to call off its patrols.

"The humanitarian situation in Homs is very difficult," said Rami Abdul-Rahman, who heads the British-based activist group Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. "It is very clear that the army wants to retake Homs."

The Observatory asked the U.N. on Saturday to intervene in Homs to evacuate hundreds of men, women and children whose lives are in danger. It also said dozens of wounded people in rebel-controlled areas of the central city cannot get medicine or doctors to treat them.

Maj. Gen. Robert Mood, the chief of the U.N. observer mission in Syria, said Saturday that intensifying clashes over the past 10 days were "posing significant risks" to the unarmed observers who were spread out across the country, and hampering their efforts. The decision came after weeks of escalating attacks, including reports of several mass killings that left dozens dead.

The observers were the only working part of a peace plan brokered by international envoy Kofi Annan. The international community saw that plan as its only hope to stop the bloodshed.

It called for the foreign monitors to check compliance with a cease-fire that was supposed to go into effect on April 12, but never took hold. They have become the most independent witnesses to the carnage on both sides as government and rebel forces ignored the truce.

The statement calling off observer patrols reinforced fears that Syria is sliding ever closer to civil war 15 months after the rebellion to oust Syrian President Bashar Assad began. Opposition groups say more than 14,000 civilians and rebels have been killed since the uprising began in March 2011.

The Observatory says more than 3,400 soldiers and militiamen loyal to the government have also been killed.

Regime forces have been waging a fierce offensive through towns and villages nationwide, trying to root out rebels by shelling urban areas with tanks and attacking from helicopters. Rebels also have attacked Syrian forces, mostly trying to burn tanks.

On Sunday, the Observatory said 27 civilians and rebel fighters were killed and more than a dozen soldiers around the country. Another group, the Local Coordination Committee, said over 50 people were killed—the group does not count soldiers' deaths. Both groups said most people were killed in shelling in Homs province and in towns around the capital Damascus.

Amateur footage by a Homs activist showed plumes of smoke wafting over the city with the sound of gunfire and shells slamming into concrete and metal.

In the nearby city of Rastan, amateur video showed the bodies of two brothers struck by a shell. None of the activists' claims could be independently verified because the Syrian government does not allow reporters or rights groups to work independently in the country.

Pope to Irish: Child abuse by clergy 'a mystery'

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI told Irish Catholics on Sunday it is a mystery why priests and other church officials abused children entrusted in their care, undermining faith in the church "in an appalling way."

By describing the decades of child abuse in Catholic parishes, schools and church-run institutions and parishes in Ireland as a ``mystery,'' the pontiff could further anger rank-and-file faithful in Ireland.

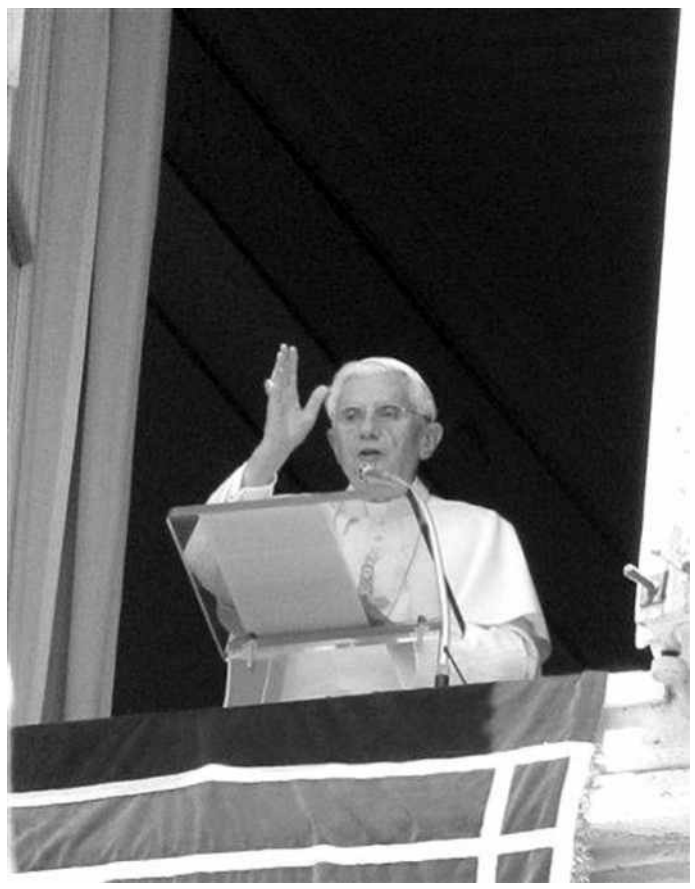
Benedict commented on the scandals of sexual abuse and cover-ups by church hierarchy in a pre-recorded video message for an outdoor Mass attended by 75,000 Catholics, many from overseas, in Ireland's largest sports stadium. Ireland's prime minister and president attended the Mass, the final event of a Eucharistic Congress aimed at shoring up flagging faith.

The weeklong Eucharistic Congress, held by the Vatican every four years in a different part of the world, took place against a backdrop of deep anger over child abuse cover-ups and surveys showing declining weekly Mass attendance in Ireland, where church and state were once tightly entwined.

``How are we to explain the fact that people who regularly received the Lord's body and confessed their sins in the sacrament of Penance have offended in this way?" said the pope, referring to church staff who abused children.

"It remains a mystery," he said. "Yet evidently their Christianity was no longer nourished by joyful encounter with Jesus Christ. It had become merely a matter of habit."

Dublin Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has said the church in Ireland is facing a grave fight for survival.



AP

Pope Benedict XVI delivers his blessing during the Angelus prayer from his studio overlooking St. Peter's square at the Vatican, Sunday, June 17, 2012.

``Your forbears in the church in Ireland knew how to strive for holiness and constancy in their personal lives," Benedict said in his message.

In a reference to the Vatican's insistence on Sunday Mass attendance, Benedict said Catholic faith ``is a legacy that is surely perfected and nourished" at Mass.

Yet, he said, ``thankfulness and joy at such a great history of faith and love have recently been shaken in an appalling way by the revelation of sins committed by priests and consecrated persons against people entrusted to their care."

``Instead of showing them the path towards Christ, toward God, instead of bearing witness to his goodness, they abused people and undermined the credibility of the church's message," the pope said.

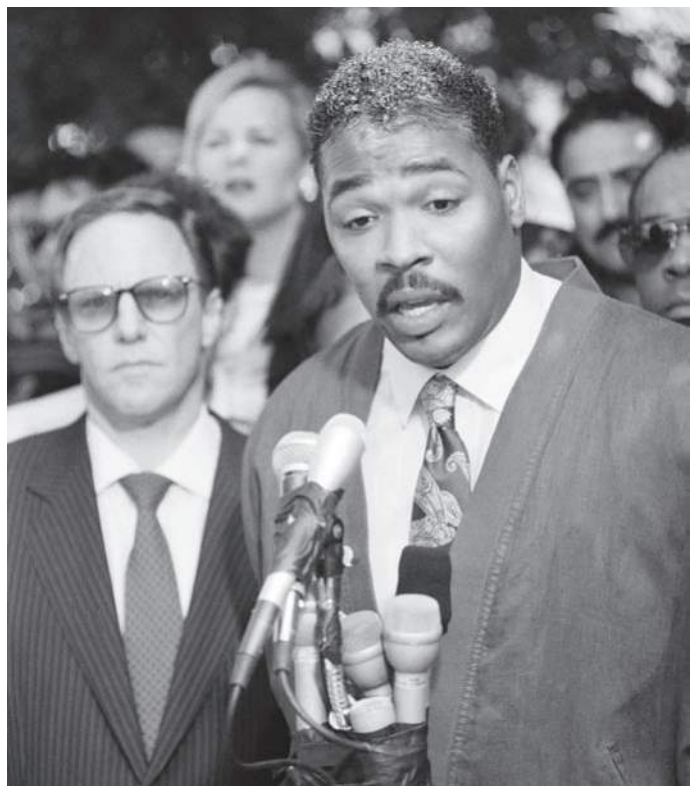
For more than a decade, advocates for those abused by clergy have been demanding that church leaders in Ireland and at the Vatican accept blame for protecting pedophile priests.

Four state-ordered investigations have documented how tens of thousands of children from the 1940s to the 1990s suffered sexual, physical and mental abuse at the hands of priests, nuns and church staff in three Irish dioceses and in a network of workhouse-style residential schools.

Focus

Rodney King's plea measures his lasting meaning

By JESSE WASHINGTON
AP NATIONAL WRITER



AP

This May 1, 1992 file photo shows Rodney King, right, speaking during a news conference in Los Angeles along with his attorney, Steven Lerman, left.

Twenty years later, Rodney King's simple yet profound question still lingers, from the street where Trayvon Martin died all the way to the White House:

"Can we all get along?"

Spoken as fires of rage and frustration wrecked huge swaths of Los Angeles, the plea distilled centuries of racial strife into a challenge—and a goal. Today, the various answers to his question measure the lasting significance of King, who died in California Sunday after he was found at the bottom of his swimming pool. He was 47.

"It was a critical question at a moment of crisis that forged our human bonds with one another," said Georgetown professor Michael Eric Dyson. "It grew up out of the hope and the desire, especially of people of color, to see this nation come together."

And it came from an unemployed construction worker who, through an accident of history, now stands among the unforgettable names of America's racial journey—names like Emmett Till, Medgar Evers, and even larger figures who died too young.

The nation first saw King as a black man curled up on the ground by his car, being beaten by four white police officers. On parole for a robbery conviction, he had been drinking, then speeding, and had refused to pull over. Police finally pulled King from his car, then struck him more than 50 times with batons and boots.

One of King's legacies is that he raised the curtain on the video age: If a man had not stepped outside of his home and videotaped the beating, King would have been lost to history.

"The biggest impact was that it was actually on tape," said Dom Giordano, a talk radio host in Philadelphia. "It was so rare, except for something like Bull Connor, to have this type of footage."

King became an enduring symbol of police brutality—proof positive, to many people, that the dogs and fire hoses loosed by Connor, the Birmingham police chief, on civil rights marchers in 1960s Alabama had merely been updated, not eliminated.

"He represented the anti-police brutality and anti-racial profiling movement of our time," the Rev. Al Sharpton said Sunday.

The videotape was the central piece of evidence at the four officers' trial, which became a classic piece of modern racial drama. Did King bring the beating on himself by resisting arrest, symbolizing that black people blame racism for the consequences of their own actions? Or was there an ingrained police culture of violence against black people, backed by a system designed for black people to lose?

There were no blacks on the jury in the predominantly white suburb of Simi Valley, Calif. After the police were acquitted—one got a mistrial—Los Angeles was engulfed in a fiery uprising that lasted three days, killed 55 people and injured more than 2,000.

"There was the articulation of a pent-up rage that had not been heard before," Dyson said. "A sense that we do count, a sense that you're going to pay attention to us."

Yet many viewed it as a spasm of lawless, pointless self-destruction, with much of the damage done to black areas. The aftermath highlighted a fundamental division in the way justice, and progress, is often viewed through the lens of race.

"I don't think white America said, now we have to make changes because they rioted," said Giordano. Instead, he sees change as a result of people living, working and starting families with other ethnicities.

Can we all get along? Giordano says yes.

"What has changed is more the meat and potatoes, day to day things," he said. "For every instance like a Trayvon Martin, I do see things routinely that indicate that we are getting along, that we are moving past racial tensions."

A few weeks ago, Giordano had King on his show, which draws a largely conservative audience, to promote his new autobiography. Nobody called in to revisit the trial or to say that King deserved what happened to him.

"That's progress," Giordano said. "I think the audience would have rejected him 20 years ago."

But Michael Coard, a Philadelphia attorney and activist who has brought numerous police brutality charges against police, is not so hopeful.

"That videotape showed white America what black America already knew," he says. "But the sad part is, it showed what white America has been and still is in denial about."

Coard named several unarmed blacks who were killed by police in the past 20 years—Amadou Diallo, Elanor Bumpurs, Sean Bell, and others. "Nothing has changed," he said.

But what about the election of the first black president? "Barack Obama had to get Secret Service protection before any other candidate," Coard responded. "He got four times the amount of death threats as George Bush. Why is that?"

"The video and the verdict grabbed America by the throat and said, what are you going to do about this?" Coard said. "And the answer was, not a damn thing."

Los Angeles' police department certainly changed. Years of investigations revealed corruption and "a significant number of officers in the LAPD who repetitively use excessive force," according to a federal government report. The Justice Department forced the LAPD to implement reforms.

Major players from the 1992 Los Angeles riots

Rodney King, whose videotaped beating by four Los Angeles police officers set off 1992's Los Angeles race riots and became a touchstone in U.S. race relations, was found dead at his home on Sunday. The riots killed 55 people, injured more than 2,000 and caused $1 billion in damage. Below, a look at the players in King's beating, trial and the riots that followed, and where they are now.

RODNEY KING

King's videotaped beating on the night of March 3, 1991, triggered the Los Angeles riots more than a year later, when three of the officers who beat him were acquitted of all charges. On the third day of the riots, he famously pleaded on national television, "Can we all get along?" In the years since he has been arrested numerous times, mainly for alcohol-related crimes, and has made several attempts at rehabilitation, including an appearance on television's "Celebrity Rehab." He received a $3.8 million settlement from the city but recently told The Associated Press much of that money was lost to bad investments. King was found dead on June 17 at age 47 at the bottom of his swimming pool in Rialto, Calif. He had published a memoir earlier in 2012 titled "The Riot Within: My Journey From Rebellion to Redemption."

DARYL GATES

Gates had been Los Angeles' chief of police for 14 years when the rioting erupted and was pressured to retire shortly afterward. Until then, he had been nationally respected for pioneering such innovations in policing as the special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team and the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) programs that partner police with schools. But he was also a polarizing force in the city's black community over perceived racism and remarks like one he made that blacks were more likely to die when placed in police chokeholds because their arteries did not reopen as quickly as those of "normal people." Gates, who blamed his command staff for letting the riot get out of control, died of cancer in 2010. He was 83.

REGINALD DENNY

Denny, the white truck driver who drove into the epicenter of the riots of rage and was pulled by several black men from his cab and nearly beaten to death, underwent numerous operations to repair his shattered head, put an eye back into its socket and reset his jaw. After the beating, he publicly forgave his attackers and even met with one of them on Phil Donahue's television show. Since then, he has remained steadfastly out of the limelight, living quietly in Arizona, and declining interview requests. He did not respond to requests for comment from The Associated Press on the riot's 20th anniversary.

GEORGE HOLLIDAY

Holliday, a plumber, was awakened by a traffic stop outside his San Fernando Valley home on the night of March 3, 1991. He went outside to film it with his new video camera, catching four officers beating and kicking black motorist Rodney King. The video's subsequent broadcast led to worldwide outrage and criminal charges against the officers. When they were acquitted the following year, the riot broke out. Holliday declined to discuss the 20th anniversary of the riot. A friend, Roby Massarotto, told The Associated Press he is busy working on a documentary about the making of the famous video.

HENRY KEITH "KEEKEE" WATSON

Watson was one of several men videotaped attacking white truck driver Reginald Denny at the beginning of the riot. He was convicted of misdemeanor assault and sentenced to time served for the 17 months he spent in jail before his case was resolved. Watson, who later apologized to Denny, operates his own limousine business in Los Angeles. He has two daughters in college and recently returned to his childhood home, near the site where Denny was attacked, to care for his elderly mother.

DAMIAN "FOOTBALL" WILLIAMS

Williams was the attacker seen on videotape smashing Denny in the back of the head with a brick. He was convicted of mayhem, assault and other charges and sentenced to 10 years in prison. Released after four years, he was convicted of the 2000 murder of a Los Angeles drug dealer and sentenced to 46 years to life in prison, where he remains.

SOON JA DU

The Korean grocer's killing of a 15-year-old black girl, Latasha Harlins, in a dispute over a bottle of orange juice, raised tensions in the black community just two weeks after King's beating. Tensions escalated even more when she was convicted of manslaughter but sentenced only to probation and community service. Many in Los Angeles' black community still say that played almost as big a role in triggering the riot as King's beating.

BOBBY GREEN

Green was one of the riot's greatest heroes. The black truck driver was watching the violence unfold on television at his Los Angeles home when he saw Denny being attacked and quickly headed to the scene. He helped push Denny back into his truck's cab and then drove him to the hospital, saving his life. Later, despite threats and insults from the community, he went on to testify against Denny's attackers. He and his family have since moved to a suburb east of Los Angeles and he did not respond to messages for comment. On the 10th anniversary of the riot, he told the *Los Angeles Times*: "I can tell my kids that color is on the outside, not the inside. To me, I turned justice around and showed them that all black people ain't the same as you think."

STACEY KOON

Koon was the police sergeant in charge when Rodney King was beaten. A 14-year veteran of the LAPD who had been commended repeatedly for his work, he has always maintained that King's arrest was handled properly. In his book, "Presumed Guilty: The Tragedy of the Rodney King Affair," Koon blamed the riot on the news media and city officials. Acquitted of criminal charges, he was later convicted of violating King's civil rights and sentenced to 30 months in prison. Koon, 61, retired after the King beating and lives in an LA suburb.

LAURENCE POWELL

Powell is the officer seen on the video hitting King more than 40 times. Acquitted of criminal charges, he was convicted of violating King's civil rights and sentenced to 30 months in prison. Powell, who lives in the San Diego area, has said he will no longer discuss the incident.

TIMOTHY WIND

Wind, a highly regarded rookie cop until the King beating, is seen on the videotape striking King with his baton. Acquitted of all charges, he was still fired by the LAPD and struggled in subsequent years to find work. He eventually enrolled in law school and has moved to the Midwest.

THEODORE BRISENO

Briseno, who stomped on King's back during the beating (he claimed to keep him on the ground so the beating would stop), broke ranks with his fellow officers and sharply criticized their actions. A fellow police officer quoted him as saying immediately after King's arrest that the situation had been mishandled by Koon, the sergeant in charge. During his criminal trial he testified that Powell, who struck King the most, was out of control and that the beating was excessive. Acquitted of all charges, he struggled to find work afterward, at one point taking a job as a security guard. He has moved to the Midwest.

Overdrive

Ford's small SUV has big shoes to fill

DETROIT (AP)—The redesigned Ford Escape is a small SUV with big shoes to fill.

The Escape that goes on sale this month replaces an older version that helped invent the pint-sized SUV category in the early 2000s. It was a huge hit for Ford, with more than 2 million sales over the last decade, and it went toe-to-toe with popular models like the Honda CR-V, Jeep Liberty and Toyota RAV4.

If the new, sharper Escape does what Ford wants it to do—unseat the CR-V—it will sit atop one of the fastest growing vehicle segments.

Small SUVs are the only vehicles that have returned to pre-recession sales levels, says Erich Merkle, Ford's chief U.S. sales analyst. More than 1.8 million of them were sold in 2011, around 14 percent of all sales. Some analysts predict they'll climb to 18 percent by 2015. A decade ago, small utilities made up just 5 percent of sales.

This undated product file image provided by the Ford Motor Co. shows the 2013 Ford Escape.

AP

Models like the Escape, Toyota RAV4, and Nissan Rogue are popular because they fill the needs of many different buyers. Baby Boomers are downsizing from bigger models like the Ford Explorer now that their children are grown. Boomers' children are moving up from smaller cars as they start families. Newer, nicer SUVs, from the Kia Sorento to the luxury Range Rover Evoque, are drawing more buyers.

Small SUVs give buyers more cargo space but are built on car frames, making them easier and more fuel-efficient to drive than large SUVs that are built on truck frames.

"We expect this segment to go higher and higher," says Jessica Caldwell, a senior analyst with car-buying site Edmunds.com.

The 2013 Escape, which gets an official kickoff Wednesday at the Louisville, Ky., plant where it's made, looks nothing like the model that first went on sale 12 years ago. Gone is the boxy styling that looked dated alongside sleeker rivals like the CR-V. The new Escape, which was designed in Europe, has the sloped, aerodynamic roof and sharper lines of the Focus sedan on which it's based.

Terry Kidd, the owner of Kidd Ford Lincoln in Morrison, Tenn., says the redesign will draw customers who preferred the tapered look of brands like Honda, which ditched the boxier styling on the CR-V in 2007. Kidd has customers lined up to buy the first few Escapes that will arrive at his dealership this week.

The new styling appealed to Tim Wilson, 56, who ordered an Escape to replace his 2012 Ford Focus.

Wilson, a supervisor at a public transit control center in Minneapolis, liked the gas mileage on the Focus but found it too small to carry his art and construction supplies, and golf clubs. He also wants to go off-roading at his winter home in Arizona.

"I like the swept-back windshield and kinetic design," says Wilson. He chose cloth seats to save money, but sprung for high-end options that included blind-spot warning lights and a system that automatically parallel parks the vehicle.

Those features may not be enough to unseat the CR-V, which was the best-selling small SUV in the U.S. from 2006 through 2010. The Escape ranked No. 2 during most of those years, until it eclipsed the CR-V in 2011 with is best sales ever of more than 254,000. Earthquake-related shortages at Honda and big discounts on old Escapes made the difference.

Fuel economy is similar on the two SUVs. The new Escape can tow up to 3,500 pounds—enough for a one-ton boat and its trailer—which is 2,000 more than the CR-V. But the CR-V offers some standard features that cost extra on the Escape, like a backup camera.

The new Escape costs $1,000 more than the outgoing model, although its $22,470 starting price puts it on par with the CR-V. Features can add up quickly. To get Ford's new automatic lift gate, which opens when the driver makes a kicking motion under the bumper, you have to upgrade to a $26,290 SE and pay $495. Leather seats cost even more.

The new Escape is 4 inches longer than the old one and has slightly more cargo space. Ford is discontinuing the hybrid version, which got 32 miles per gallon, but buyers can get up to 33 mpg with one of the new Escape's gas engines.

UNDER THE HOOD

Diagnosing a spotty fan the old-fashioned way

Bu BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: I have a 2000 Cadillac Eldorado ETC with 70,700 miles. The car is in excellent condition but there is an intermittent problem with both the air conditioning and heating systems. When the A/C is on, all of a sudden the blower motor shuts off and nothing comes out of the vents. A short while later, everything starts up again with the A/C working correctly. The same thing with the heater: The blower motor will be providing heat as normal, and then the motor shuts down with nothing happening. After a while the heater motor starts up again and works correctly.

When working correctly, the A/C puts out cold air and the heater puts out heat. I'm not sure if the same motor is used for both A/C and heat, but if so, then something is turning the motor off and on intermittently. I haven't taken the car to a repair shop because every time I try, everything starts working. Any ideas?—Hans Kiel

ANSWER: Your intuition is correct: There's just one blower motor to provide all front heating, ventilation, and cooling. It's located at the right rear corner of the engine compartment, within the firewall, partially obscured by the engine's right-bank camshaft cover. Your Eldorado's electronic climate control system has great onboard diagnostics, but it doesn't look at the blower circuit.

Fortunately, the blower motor, which contains an integrated speed controller, is easy to diagnose using traditional methods. I'd start by using the system until the blower stops. Then with key on, engine off and system on, give the blower motor a smack with the end of a hammer handle or similar hard object. If it springs to life, a fault internal to the unit is a sure thing. If this fails to do the trick, try wiggling the 3-wire connector leading to it; a change in operation indicates a connector fault.

If neither of the above tricks works, a simple check for power, ground and a variable voltage signal at the three connector pins will confirm or condemn the needed external elements for the blower motor to work. My hunch is the blower unit will be the culprit, or a poor connection elsewhere is inhibiting either power or ground from making it to the connector. Communication signals, such as the one between the heater and A/C programmer and the motor's speed controller, and the smarts originating the signal, rarely give trouble.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Whistling alternator might be sending a message

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I have a 2008 Jeep Liberty with 71,000 miles. Last fall, at about 60,000 miles, it began to make an engine-related whistling noise. It usually appears after the engine is warmed up, and only above 2,000 rpm. Revving the engine brings the noise, which pulsates rapidly according to rpm. It seems to be coming from the alternator. The dealer replaced the EGR valve and the serpentine belt with no improvement.

A mechanic confirmed the alternator as the source of the noise. An automotive electrical shop completely rebuilt the alternator with new bearings and installed a new serpentine belt tensioner. But the noise is still there after all of this work. The shop finally concluded that the alternator was squealing when working under load and that it must be normal. Is this correct?

ANSWER: Why not have the shop or dealer measure the amperage output of the alternator under normal operation? Assuming your vehicle is not diesel-powered, there were two different Denso alternators available: 136-amp and 160-amp. According to my Alldata database, here's how it works: "The PCM or ECM receives a voltage input from the generator (alternator) and also a battery voltage input from the TIPM (Totally Integrated Power Module), it then compares the voltages to the desired voltage programmed in the EVR (Electronic Voltage Regulator) software, and, if there is a difference, it sends a signal to the generator EVR circuit to increase or decrease output."

It would appear that the voltage difference between the alternator, battery and TIPM is great enough to command the alternator to produce higher output. It's worth trying two things: a scan tool to determine specific voltages and any charging system fault codes, and a careful inspection and testing of connections and grounds in the battery/charging circuits.

Does the alternator use a decoupler pulley? This is a one-way clutch designed to "reduce belt tension fluctuation, vibration, reduce fatigue loads, improve belt life, reduce hubloads on components, and reduce noise." Could this be the culprit?

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I have a 1997 Ford F-150 four-wheel drive with 40,000 miles on it. I was told it needs new ball joints. The joints are not loose, but they squeak. I modified a grease gun coupling with a needle used for pumping up basketballs. By puncturing the boots with the needle, I can pump grease into the boots. Is this a fix, or will the grease fail to migrate into the joint where it will do some good?

A: While I really like your way of thinking—can I fix it myself?—I'm not sure this will do much good. But heck, what have you got to lose? If it doesn't, replace the joints. Also, you may not have to actually puncture the boots. You may be able to pry up the edge of the rubber and slip the needle underneath. By the way, the allowable radial play in upper/lower ball joints is 1/32 inch. And as you've discovered, they are not individually serviceable—the entire upper or lower control arm must be replaced.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I have owned a 2006 Chrysler Crossfire convertible for the past three years. Shortly after I purchased the car, I noticed a distinct musty odor inside. If I did not know better, I would swear that the car sat outside during a torrential rain and the carpet got wet and is now molding. But everything in the car made of cloth still looks great. I have been spraying with deodorizer to mask the odor for three years, and the odor keeps coming back.

A: How do you "know better"? After all, you bought the vehicle used. Have you pulled up the carpeting to check the padding? If it's wet, you've found your culprit. Water can enter through the heater/evaporator box, the windshield, the top or the windows. Try spraying your deodorizer down the fresh air vents with the heater or A/C on and make sure the heater/evaporator drain tube is open.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car*, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at:* Star Tribune*, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.*

Life&Style

Rielle Hunter's memoir details affair, aftermath

By MEG KINNARD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

When John Edwards faced the prospect of an indictment that could put him behind bars, he calmly told his mistress he would probably wind up in a low-security prison in Virginia more like a country club than a jail. She quickly told him she and their daughter would move there to be near him if that happened.

Rielle Hunter details their phone call just days before his indictment in her new memoir, purchased by The Associated Press ahead of its release.

"What Really Happened: John Edwards, Our Daughter and Me," also includes Rielle Hunter's mixed views on Edwards' parenting of their daughter Quinn and descriptions of Elizabeth Edwards' outbursts. At the end of the book, Hunter says she still has romantic feelings for Edwards but doesn't know how their relationship will turn out.

The book also provides a window into Edwards' psyche as federal prosecutors began their case against him. Days before his indictment Hunter asked: "So if you went to jail, what kind of jail would it be? One of those country clubs?"

"He said, `Yeah.'"

"`Where?'" she asked.

"`Probably Virginia.'"

"So Quinn and I will move to Virginia. Virginia is a great state."

The only low-security federal prison in Virginia is in Petersburg, where former Washington, D.C., mayor Marion Barry once served time.

On the day of the indictment, the two shared a surreal phone call as a newspaper reporter banged on her door in Charlotte, while the man she refers to as "Johnny" throughout the book called her cell phone to say that he was also being pursued.

"`I've got helicopters circling my house,' Johnny said."

New York publishers had said they were not interested in Hunter's book, citing her negative image, so it is instead being released through a Dallas-based boutique publisher, BenBella Books, on June 26.

Federal prosecutors spent a year prosecuting Edwards, culminating in a six-week trial that ended last month. Jurors acquitted Edwards on one count of accepting illegal campaign contributions and deadlocked on five other felony counts. The judge declared a mistrial. Federal prosecutors then said in a court order earlier this month that they wouldn't retry Edwards, and the charges against him were dropped.

Neither Edwards nor Hunter testified.

Prosecutors had accused Edwards, 59, of masterminding a scheme to use about $1 million in secret payments from two wealthy political donors to hide his pregnant mistress as he sought the White House in 2008.

The trial publicized intimate details about Edwards' affair with Hunter as his wife, Elizabeth, was dying of cancer. Much of the book describes their unfolding relationship and the lengths to which Hunter went to sneak in and out of Edwards' hotel rooms, even after her contract as a videographer ended. She also describes paparazzi chases after news of their affair broke.

Hunter writes that Edwards is a doting father when he's around their daughter but that his obligations to his other children curtail their time together. The book features several pictures of the father and daughter together, smiling. Immediately after his trial, Edwards said during a news conference—with his adult daughter, Cate, by his side—that he loved Quinn "more than any of you can ever imagine." Quinn is now 4 and lives with Hunter in Charlotte.

"He is a great dad to her when he is with her," Hunter writes.

AP

This file photo provided by RMT PR Management shows the cover of "What Really Happened," a memoir about Rielle Hunter, her relationship with former presidential candidate and Sen. John Edwards and their daughter.

Film returns Travolta to spotlight, amid bad press

By ANTHONY McCARTNEY
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—John Travolta will soon be back on the big screen, but weeks of negative headlines have focused on his personal life and not on the return of one of Hollywood's top stars.

Travolta plays a corrupt Drug Enforcement Administration agent in "Savages," an Oliver Stone film about a war between marijuana growers and a Mexican drug cartel. It's the charismatic bad guy role that has kept Travolta popular in his later career, although he is not considered one of the film's lead actors.

This weekend, the two-time Oscar nominee is expected to face the media for the first time since the headlines broke as he begins doing publicity for the movie with selected TV outlets. A source familiar with the production of "Savages" told The Associated Press that Travolta's recent PR difficulties have not altered his publicity schedule or marketing of the film. The source, who was not authorized to speak publicly, said Travolta was doing the same amount of interviews as the film's other stars, which include Benicio del Toro and Salma Hayek.

Travolta's first film since 2010 comes less than two months after the actor was accused in a lawsuit of groping two masseurs. The case quickly unraveled after Travolta's attorney discredited one of the anonymous accusers by showing the actor was across the country on the day of one of the alleged incidents.

Yet the suit was widely reported by both mainstream and tabloid media and subsequent stories have focused on Travolta's sexuality. The actor hasn't directly addressed the claims, but his representatives have steadfastly denied them.

Whether any of this impacts "Savages" remains to be seen, but several experts said the allegations are unlikely to hurt the film or Travolta's career.

Robert Marich, author of "Marketing to Moviegoers," said the murky nature of the allegations against Travolta means he'll probably get the benefit of the doubt. "In those situations the public is very forgiving to stars," Marich said. "I don't see any negative reaction."

He said the film's publicity may be fragmented as a result of the allegations, which doesn't benefit the studio, but he noted publicity is a film's most unpredictable element. News outlets "can go off the studio script," he said, creating a difficult situation. "Savages" is being distributed by Universal Pictures, which, like most studios, seeks to closely manage media coverage of its debuting films.

Travolta

The Travolta- "Savages" situation isn't unique in Hollywood. Mel Gibson's last film, "The Beaver," was released while he was battling domestic violence allegations and embroiled in a bitter custody battle. In 2010, Lindsay Lohan missed the publicity period—and red carpet—for her supporting role in the film "Machete" due to problems with her probation.

Hugh Grant's arrest for lewd conduct with a prostitute a couple weeks before the release of the 1995 film "Nine Months" was especially dicey. Grant surprised many by keeping his previously scheduled appearances, apologizing and appearing humbled. It preserved his fledgling career in the United States.

Veteran Hollywood publicist Howard Bragman said studios can avoid PR-mishaps in two ways: They carefully select outlets they trust, and they prepare a star on how to handle a difficult question.

He said Travolta's supporting role provides him some cover. "You let other people do more of the heavy lifting," Bragman said.

As for Travolta's strategy if he is asked about the scandalous headlines, "I would suspect what he doesn't want to do is make any news about it."

Bragman predicted Travolta's troubles wouldn't hurt "Savages."

"I don't think it's going to affect anything," he said.

The nature of the allegations about Travolta puts him in a different—and better—position than Gibson, said Matthew Le Veque, an associate professor at USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism.

Gibson, who was caught on leaked recordings engaging in racist and sexist rants, had actually offended a lot of moviegoers by the time "The Beaver" was released, Le Veque said. The legal fight limited Gibson's ability to do press for the film, but Travolta's situation hasn't gotten to that point, he said.

"John Travolta's side is doing a very good job of casting doubt on the accusers' story," he said.

Travolta's career has seen its share of struggles, including the 2009 death of his son Jett, as well as comebacks. He has two other film projects in the works after "Savages," making it unlikely he'll disappear from the public eye or from venues where uncomfortable questions will be asked.

"Moviegoers think they have their personal relationship with the talent that's based on what's on screen," said Marich, adding they hold movie stars in a different esteem.

"They don't expect Hollywood figures to be saints," he said.

Oliver Stone agrees.

"He's fun to watch, and he enjoyed it," the director said of his star. "To me, a movie is about the fun you have. It doesn't matter, your personal history. Somebody can be a son of a bitch, and I know a few, but if you enjoy the movie, you enjoy the movie."

SC library shows 'Catch-22' author's writing tools

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP)—Students more accustomed to computer screens than manual typewriters are getting a chance to sit at author Joseph Heller's stained wooden desk and type on the battered Smith-Corona he used to compose his acclaimed novel "Catch-22."

A small exhibit at a University of South Carolina library displays the desk, typewriter and lamp used by Heller as he wrote many of his major works. The university library has one of the largest collections of his papers, manuscripts and other memorabilia available to researchers, library officials said.

"We acquired this with the expectation that students would type on the typewriter and experience sitting at his desk," said Elizabeth Suddeth, director of the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections at the Ernest F. Hollings Library on the Columbia campus, where the display is located.

The display is available for students and library visitors until late December, Suddeth said.

Heller died in 1999, and during the past year his widow, Valerie, added his desk and lamp to USC's collection, Suddeth said. "Catch-22" was his first novel and is often hailed as one of America's best novels about World War II and questions of sanity, warfare and hypocrisy.

The typewriter was acquired in 2003 through the efforts of the late USC English professor Dr. Matthew Bruccoli, who urged the university to buy a collection of Heller's manuscripts, and who also passed along many books from his own Heller collection, Suddeth said.

The well-worn desk is covered with coffee cup rings and other stains. Its veneer is chipped, there's a hole in the right drawer, and it bears scars at knee height where chairs apparently bashed against it. The small, portable typewriter has dark green keys that respond with a solid "thunk" when struck.

Heller wrote in his autobiography "Then and Now" about acquiring the typewriter, which he bought at Macy's in New York. He ordered a special "writer's keyboard," which had punctuation marks in lower and upper case to make typing easier, he said. "It made no difference," he wrote.

"It's very unfamiliar. You don't hold your hands the same way as you would with a computer," said Jessica Dowd, 25, who tried the machine out after noting she'd never used a manual typewriter.

Dowd graduated from the USC school of library science and works in the rare books department.

"It's exciting to be able to touch what Heller touched," she said.

The display reflects how Bruccoli wanted his students to learn about literature, said Dr. Park Bucker, an associate professor of English at USC's Sumter campus.

"He taught his classes in the library. He wanted students to be surrounded by writer's stuff. He was a very hands-on person and wanted a library to be a living collection," Bucker said.

Bucker said his own students "think a typewriter is a museum piece. They need to know that writing was a completely different process before the computer."

Bucker said some students enjoy Heller's dark humor in "Catch-22," while others may find its "episodic nature" and changes of time frame frustrating.

The professor said Bruccoli invited Heller to visit the University of South Carolina several times, where he participated in writer's workshops and delivered the main address at a university's celebration of F. Scott Fitzgerald in 1996.

"Heller enjoyed his time here. That a big reason why we have his papers," Bucker said.

The exhibit is on display through Dec. 20th in the Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections section. The library is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays on the Columbia campus.

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Rock of Ages

Friday and Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	10:05
Sunday thru Thursday	1:25	4:25	7:25	

Tom Cruise, Diego Boneta, Russell Brand
Musical • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Two love-struck dreamers fall in love during the heights of the hair-metal scene as they navigate the seedy world of drugs, mullets, and stripping while at a club on the Sunset Strip in this adaptation of the hit off-Broadway musical. Barry Munday's Chris D'Arienzo adapts his own stage book and handles direction duties for the New Line production.

★ ★ ★

Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted

Friday and Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:30
Sunday thru Thursday	1:15	4:15	7:15	

Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer
Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

The third entry in the Madagascar franchise finds the tightknit group of animals joining a traveling circus in order to get back home. Noah Baumbach provides the script, with Eric Darnell handling director duties. Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Sacha Baron Cohen reprise the voice roles, with Frances McDormand stepping in as the villain.

Prometheus

Friday and Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday thru Thursday	1:30	4:30	7:30	

Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender
Science Fiction • Rated R

Snow White and The Huntsman

Friday and Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday thru Thursday	1:05	4:05	7:05	

Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Men In Black 3

Friday and Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:45
Sunday thru Thursday	1:20	4:20	7:20	

Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Battleship

Friday and Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
Sunday thru Thursday	1:00	4:00	7:00	

Liam Neeson, Taylor Kitsch
Science fiction, War • Rated PG 13

Marvel's The Avengers

Friday and Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday thru Thursday	1:10	4:10	7:10	

Robert Downey, Jr., Chris Evans, Samuel L. Jackson
Action • Rated PG 13

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Alien fighter Noah Wyle back in 'Falling Skies'

AP

In this undated photo released by TNT, actors, Moon Bloodgood, left, and Noah Wyle, appear in a scene from TNT's "Falling Skies" Season Finale - Part 1: "Mutiny."

By LYNN ELBER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Noah Wyle is confronting an alien invasion, the death of his wife and the potential annihilation of the human species in "Falling Skies."

But he had to face a more personal issue in tackling the role of history professor Tom Mason in TNT's sci-fi series, returning for season two: Wyle, 41, has become an elder statesman, relatively speaking.

"I'm Anthony Edwards," said Wyle, referring to the "ER" co-star who's got eight years on him and boasted more credits when they started on the medical drama in 1994. "I'm the guy who's been around a little longer and has a little more set savvy."

It's a shift that came up faster than expected for Wyle, who looks younger than his years despite the beard he added for gravitas on "Falling Skies."

"When I showed up on set and realized I was going to play a father to Drew Royce, who's 26, my first instinct was, 'You gotta be kidding me.' Then I thought, 'Why is nobody else having a problem with this?'"

With his own children just 9 and 6 years old, Wyle protests, "I'm a young dad."

His TV expertise is much appreciated, said Remi Aubuchon, the show's executive producer.

"Noah is a terrific example for the rest of the cast and us. He's always on set prepared and he stays on the set. And this is a revelation for me, he reads scripts early and his notes are always well thought-out and smart."

Intelligence is a hallmark of Wyle's characters since "ER," the actor acknowledges: "I tend to play smart guys, which I like. Brains over brawn."

But Professor Tom is far from deskbound. There's plenty of opportunity for him to show off his action skills as Tom and other Earthlings fight multi-legged aliens, un-fondly nicknamed "skitters" by their human prey, and their murderous robots.

Wyle views Tom as a new form of hero who synthesizes the military code embodied by tough soldier Weaver (Will Patton) with a knowledge of history, creating what a colleague termed a "warrior statesmen."

His skills are put to the test as the new season unfolds. After voluntarily leaving Earth to meet the aliens on their spaceship turf, he's viewed with suspicion by members of Massachusetts' "2nd Mass" civilian resistance group.

The 10 episodes of season two, filmed in Vancouver, bring new depth to the characters and begin to unfold the "mythology onion" surrounding the aliens and their mission, Wyle said.

"It feels a lot fresher, a lot more fun, instead of going, 'I'm Tom Mason, I used to be a history professor. To prove that, I'm going to cite historical references for each one of these battles,'" he said.

There's definitely more action afoot this season, Aubuchon said, and at the specific direction of executive producer Steven Spielberg.

"His primary thing, and I believe he used these words, was, 'Amp it up. Fans want more. We have to deliver more than we did in the first season,'" Aubuchon said. With six months elapsed since the invasion, and the initial trauma past, the conflict had to evolve.

The 2nd Mass understands "we're not playing anymore, we're not hiding, and if we die, we die honorably," he said.

Spielberg was also adamant that "Falling Skies" avoid turning into a "hardware show" with emotions swamped by special effects, Aubuchon said. There will be family time for Tom and his three sons, and romance as well.

In one episode, widower Tom and lovely pediatrician Anne Glass (Moon Bloodgood) share a brief, tender moment over a rare chocolate treat Tom has found for her.

Call it "post-apocalyptic dating," Aubuchon said, "when you know an alien might come around the corner at any moment."

But the revved-up alien action is the payoff for Wyle's homefront audience, including his son, Owen, who helped dad choose between playing a policeman, lawyer, insurance adjustor or "Falling Skies" alien fighter.

"It keeps my son entertained," Wyle said, smiling.

'Madagascar 3' stampedes, 'Rock,' Sandler stumble

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Zoo animals remain hot at the box office. Singing stars and Adam Sandler are not.

Ben Stiller and his voice co-stars of "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted" held on to the No. 1 spot again, with $35.5 million for the animated sequel's second weekend in domestic theaters.

Studio estimates Sunday put Ridley Scott's sci-fi adventure "Prometheus" at No. 2 again with $20.2 million.

"Madagascar 3" and "Prometheus" held off two underachieving newcomers. The star-studded musical "Rock of Ages," whose cast includes Tom Cruise, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Alec Baldwin, flopped at No. 3 with $15.1 million.

Sandler's "That's My Boy" bombed with $13 million, the worst showing for one of his broad comedies since the mid-1990s. "That's My Boy" came in at No. 5, behind the $13.8 million for "Snow White & the Huntsman," a film that's been out for three weekends already.

"Sure, we would have liked to have done more," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution at Sony, which released "That's My Boy" and most of Sandler's past movies. "But you've got to give it to Adam. He mixes it up. This is a really off-the-wall comedy."

"That's My Boy" stars Sandler as a guy who became a fleeting teen celebrity after getting his seventh-grade teacher pregnant and now is a middle-aged loser trying to reconnect with his son (Andy Samberg).

Between "Rock of Ages" and "That's My Boy," Hollywood fell back into a pattern that persisted at the start of summer season in May as new movies debuted weakly, unable to dislodge strong holdovers.

The superhero tale "The Avengers" has dominated so far, remaining in the top-10 after seven weekends, its $8.8 million take raising its domestic total to $586.7 million. The film has taken in $1.4 billion worldwide.

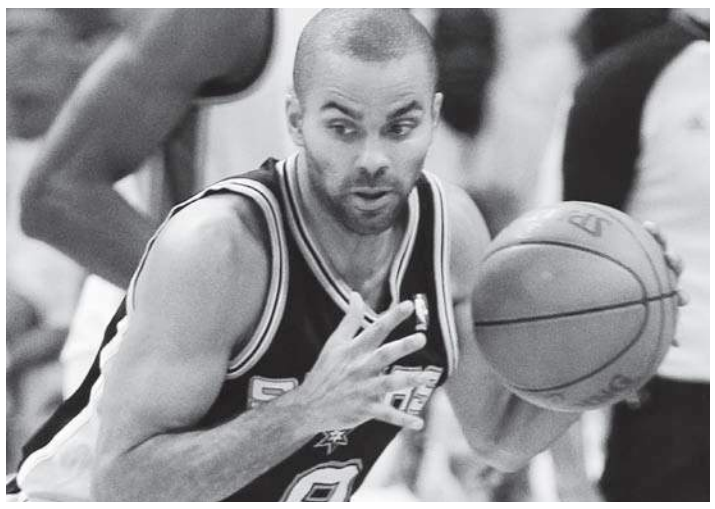
1. **"Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted,"** $35.5 million ($53 million international).
2. **"Prometheus,"** $20.2 million ($25.5 million international).
3. **"Rock of Ages,"** $15.1 million ($4.1 million international).
4. **"Snow White & the Huntsman,"** $13.8 million ($31.2 million international).
5. **"That's My Boy,"** $13 million ($1.4 million international)
6. **"Men in Black 3,"** $10 million ($19.7 million international).
7. **"The Avengers,"** $8.8 million ($3.9 million international).
8. **"The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel,"** $2.2 million ($160,000 international).
9. **"Moonrise Kingdom,"** $2.18 million ($700,000 international).
10. **"What to Expect When You're Expecting,"** $1.3 million ($1.5 million international).

US basketball star hurt in Drake-Brown brawl

Professional basketball star Tony Parker says he suffered a scratched retina on one of his eyes during a New York City nightclub brawl involving singer Chris Brown and members of hip-hop star Drake's entourage.

The guard for the San Antonio Spurs of the National Basketball Association, wearing dark sunglasses, described the incident Friday in Paris during a news conference posted on YouTube. He said he expects to be sidelined for about a week while the French team prepares for the Summer Olympics.

Parker said he was wearing a "therapeutic" contact lens and had to go to an emergency room for treatment after arriving in Paris.



AP

In this June 6, 2012 file photo, San Antonio Spurs point guard Tony Parker (9), of France, takes the ball downcourt past Oklahoma City Thunder small forward Kevin Durant during the first half of Game 6 in the NBA basketball Western Conference finals, in Oklahoma City.

Parker said: "I was with my friend Chris Brown and me and my friends took some punches, so I'll be missing the start of the French team because I can't do anything for a week except keep the lens in and then take drops."

Police said Brown, his girlfriend and his bodyguard were among several people injured during the bottle-hurling fight early Thursday at W.i.P in SoHo.

Parker said "they started throwing bottles everywhere. I don't know what happened. At first it was OK, but then it started getting worse and when the plane landed it was really hurting so I went straight to the ER."

The Spurs declined comment.

Ethan Hawke: My teen daughter is 'remarkable kid'

NEW YORK (AP)—Ethan Hawke is approaching uncharted territory: raising a teenage daughter. But the 41-year-old "Reality Bites" actor couldn't be more excited.

"I know she's a miracle happening. It's awesome," said Hawke of 13-year-old Maya Ray, his daughter with ex-wife Uma Thurman.

"People always warn me that it's going to be challenging having a teenage daughter, and the truth is it's one of the most exciting things that's ever happened to me," said Hawke. "She's a remarkable kid."

Hawke

He easily jumped into his latest role—a frustrated American writer who moves to Paris to be closer to his young daughter—in his new film, "The Woman in the Fifth."

"I try to let every character that you play feel like they hit close to home. You know, whether the details of your life are similar or not, it's still a fiction. But what you want to do is make it personal to you," explained Hawke of the artsy, Polish-French movie, in theaters Friday.

Hawke's horror-thriller "Sinister" and his "Total Recall" reboot are slated to open later this year. He's also working on a follow-up to the romantic dramas "Before Sunrise" and "Before Sunset."

But his primary focus remains on his family, which includes his 10-year-old son, Levon Roan, from his marriage to Thurman, and daughters Clementine, 3, and 11-month-old Indiana with his wife, Ryan Shawhughes.

"My to-do list involves laundry and picking up kids from school. You know it's all the ordinary things of life. The work stuff, I just try to let it happen and see where it takes me," he said.

Jack Osbourne says he has multiple sclerosis

NEW YORK (AP)—New father Jack Osbourne is facing a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis.

The former reality star and son of Ozzy and Sharon Osbourne revealed his health crisis in an interview with People released Sunday. He told the magazine he was angry and frustrated when he found out, and he's concerned about his family.

Osbourne and his fiancé Lisa Stelly had daughter Pearl in April.

Multiple sclerosis attacks the brain and spinal cord, and can cause somewhat mild problems or serious disability, such as paralysis.

Jack Osbourne gained fame as a teen when his heavy metal father and his mother allowed the family to be profiled in the MTV reality show "The Osbournes."

Official: Miss Universe chooses Dominican Republic

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—The director of the Dominican Republic's Miss Universe contest says the international pageant is scheduled to be held in the Caribbean country this year.

Magaly Febles tells The Associated Press that the New York-based organization is waiting for Dominican tourism officials to approve its request to hold the pageant there. She says the country meets all the requirements to host the event, adding that organization officials liked the facilities they toured.

Tourist Department spokesman Napoleon de la Cruz says officials have no comment.

The organization's 61st pageant is scheduled for December, with Angola native Leila Lopes crowning her successor.

The Dominican Republic last hosted a Miss Universe pageant in 1977. It has won the contest only once, in 2003, when judges selected Amelia Vega.

Radiohead drum technician killed in stage collapse

TORONTO (AP)—Investigators combed through the wreckage of a Toronto stage Sunday to determine what caused the structure to come crashing down ahead of a Radiohead concert, killing the band's drum technician and injuring three other crew members.

The British band said it was devastated over the death of Scott Johnson, a U.K. citizen in his 30s who was trapped under the rubble and pronounced dead at the scene.

"We have all been shattered by the loss of Scott Johnson, our friend and colleague. He was a lovely man, always positive, supportive and funny; a highly skilled and valued member of our great road crew," the band said on its website. "We will miss him very much. Our thoughts and love are with Scott's family and all those close to him."

Toronto Police spokesman Tony Vella said a 45-year-old man hospitalized with a head injury was improving and his life was not in danger. The other two crew members were treated at the scene.

Officials from the Ontario Ministry of Labor searched through the wreckage for clues to the cause of the collapse Saturday in Downsview Park. They were also investigating whether safety regulations and standards were followed and if staff were properly trained.

Ministry spokesman Matt Blajer said the massive structure is "still fairly unstable" and work is under way to make it safe.

He said the investigation is "fairly complex" and it could take some time to figure out exactly what happened. Blajer said they have three inspectors and two engineers going through the wreckage. They were provided with engineer drawings.

Vella said criminal charges could result but added that it's early in the investigation.

Live Nation, the company that organized the concert, did not immediately return calls seeking comment Sunday.

Radiohead's website had listed the concert as being sold out, with 40,000 tickets sold. The band said fans could get refunds for the cancelled show at points of purchase.

Police said the park wasn't full when the collapse occurred at about 4 p.m. but there was a considerable crowd already waiting for the show amid sunny skies.

Mike Kensey, 26, said he arrived at the venue hours early to get a spot close the stage and see the opening act by Canadian band Caribou.

"It was like fireworks went off and then boom, the stage just crumbled to the ground in a matter of seconds," he said. "I had never really seen anything like it."

Joseph McGuire, 28, said he drove from Warren, Michigan, to attend the concert.

"I was so bummed, coming all the way here to find out the show had been canceled, but I also thought we were pretty lucky that it didn't happen while the concert was going on," he said. "I couldn't imagine the chaos and even great potential injuries and possible deaths had it happened during the concert."

Many of the disappointed fans headed instead to Yonge-Dundas Square in downtown Toronto, where "Spinner Magazine" was hosting a free concert headlined by the Flaming Lips as part of the weeklong North by Northeast musical festival.

Flaming Lips frontman Wayne Coyne paid tribute to Radiohead throughout the show, including performing a cover of Radiohead's "Knives Out," which he introduced saying "peace be with their hearts tonight."

"This has been a pretty powerful day. This goes out to the Radiohead family," he said.

There have been a number of concert stage collapses in recent years.

In Canada, one person died and several people were injured when the stage went down at Bluesfest in Ottawa last July, and one person died and more than a dozen were injured in 2009 when a powerful windstorm caused the main stage to collapse at the Big Valley Jamboree near Camrose.

Couple have had their fill of dinner-time socializing

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: We have been having a problem with a young neighbor couple in our rural area. They drop in to visit us about five evenings a week. They're nice people and good neighbors, so we don't want to offend them, but what would be a diplomatic way to tell them we don't want company that often?

The husband gets home from work at 4:30 p.m. every day and his wife always has dinner on the table when he walks in the door. My husband is 62. He works hard 10 to 12 hours a day and returns home anywhere between 5 and 7 p.m. So it's not possible for me to have dinner ready and waiting. Our idea of a pleasant evening is eating dinner, watching an hour or two of TV, and going to bed about 9 p.m.

My husband has to drive by these neighbors' house on his way home, so they know when he gets here—and they usually arrive shortly thereafter. I feel very uncomfortable cooking a meal and eating with non-eating company in my kitchen, so I always put dinner preparation aside and visit with them for an hour or two. It's not unusual for us to wind up having dinner at 9 p.m. Sometimes they stay so long my husband and I are too tired to even bother.

We have about had it. How can we regain our privacy but remain friends?

MISSING DINNER IN MISSOURI

DEAR MISSING DINNER: You and your husband have been such good neighbors that you have made yourselves prisoners in your own home. The next time the couple arrives at your door at dinnertime, in a pleasant tone, say, "John just got home from work and he's tired and hungry. Please excuse us while we have dinner. We plan to retire early. And in the future, don't just drop by—please wait until we call you."

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Ted," and I have been married for four years and have a 3-year-old son. Before we were married we talked about having at least two children.

After our son was born, Ted went through what he believes was postpartum depression. He wasn't prepared for the reality of having a baby, and it was hard on him. To his credit, he got through it and has been a fantastic father to our son.

He now says he doesn't want any more children. We are financially stable, but Ted says it isn't the money. He just doesn't want to go through it again.

Abby, I can't imagine not having one more child. I know I can't force him to change his mind, but I'm afraid I will resent him for denying me something I want so badly, especially since we had agreed ahead of time.

I feel there is no compromising on this. Either way, one of us is going to be miserable. I cry all the time and don't know how to move on. Can you help?

DREAMING OF TWO IN TACOMA, WASH.

DEAR DREAMING OF TWO: I wish I could, but not knowing the cause of your husband's anxiety and aversion to having another child, I'm at a disadvantage. You should both talk this out with a licensed marriage and family therapist, and I hope you'll do it before you become further depressed because your current mental state may adversely affect your ability to parent the child you have.

■ ■ ■ ■

CONFIDENTIAL TO "FEELING OLD AT 45": Old age doesn't have to be lonely. It's what you choose to MAKE it. Reflect on the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall's comment on aging: "I have a lifetime appointment and I intend to serve it. I expect to die at 110—shot by a jealous husband!"

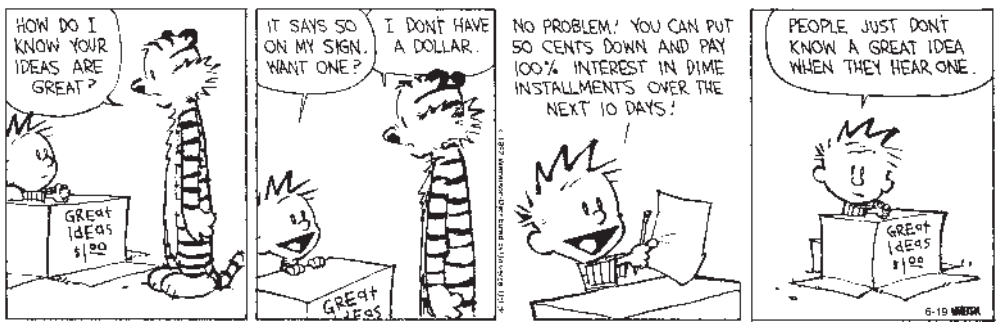
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson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PEOPLE JUST DON'T KNOW A GREAT IDEA WHEN THEY HEAR ONE.
6-19

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WHOA, IF I EAT ANOTHER BITE, I'M GOING TO EXPLODE
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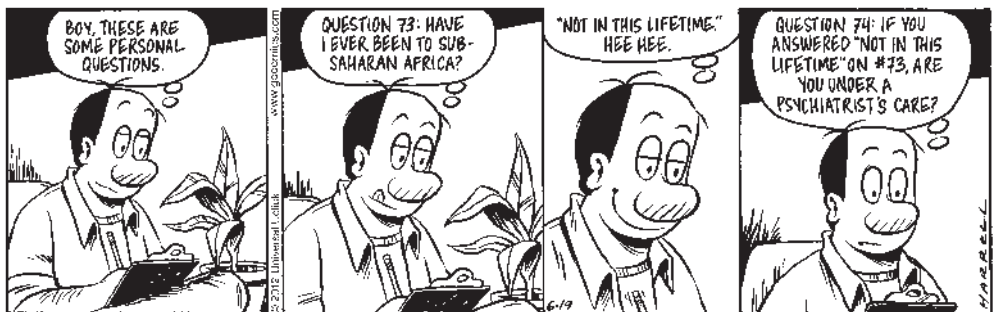
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


BOY, THESE ARE SOME PERSONAL QUESTIONS.
QUESTION 73: HAVE I EVER BEEN TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA?
"NOT IN THIS LIFETIME." HEE HEE.
QUESTION 74: IF YOU ANSWERED "NOT IN THIS LIFETIME" ON #73, ARE YOU UNDER A PSYCHIATRIST'S CARE?
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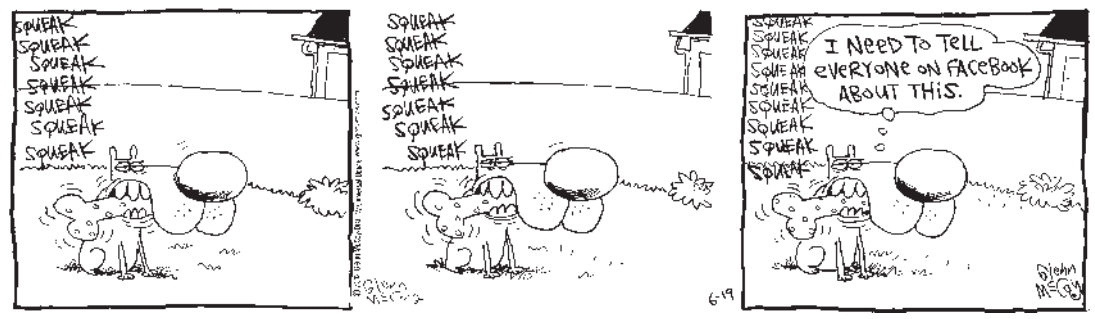
6-19
MARBEEL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

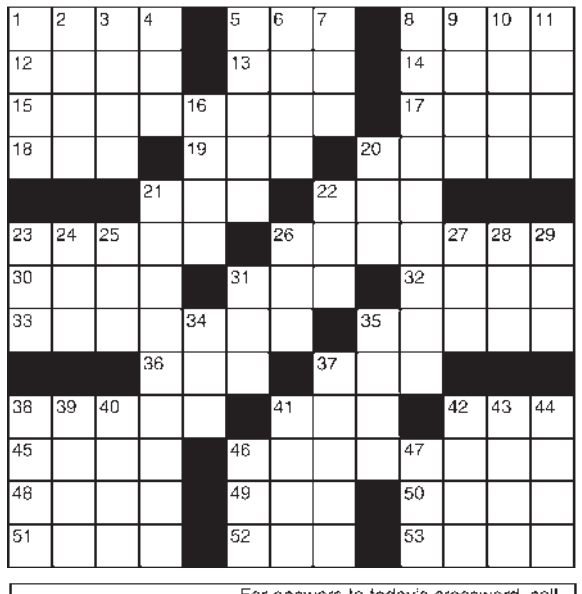
ACROSS
1 Coconut tree
5 Auto fuel
8 Bat a fly
12 Hodge-podge
13 Web address
14 Apiece
15 Panty raid site
17 1492 vessel
18 Shirt shape
19 Donkey
20 — mignon
21 See 36-Across
22 Court
23 Two-faced god
26 Takes temporarily
30 Greatly
31 Diving bird
32 Concept
33 Laundry task
35 Trusty horse
36 With 21-Across, senescence
37 Handyman's abbr.
38 Store staffer
41 Baseball great Hodges
42 Tease
45 Mischievous Norse god
46 More than half
48 Aid and —
49 In times past
50 Actor Clive
51 Too inquisitive
52 Skillet
53 Marceau's specialty

DOWN
1 Mail
2 Lotion additive
3 Former Italian money
4 Cow's call
5 Costume
6 — and crafts
7 Crafty
8 Privilege due to time served
9 Banshee's noise
10 Teen's woe
11 Just one of those things?
16 Tatters
20 Supporting
21 Expert
22 Oriental 52-Across
23 Mandible
24 — carte
25 Ph. bk. info
26 Insect
27 Rhyming tribute
28 Small
29 Blue
31 Moreover
34 Sort
35 Missile shelter
37 Mustard city
38 Family
39 Timber wolf
40 Scratches (out)
41 Totally smitten
42 New Zealander
43 Particular
44 Unit of force
46 Navigation aid
47 Computer acronym

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	M	A			G	U	S		F	O	A	M
L	O	G	S		A	S	H		I	D	L	E
B	O	O	M		L	E	O		R	E	I	N
A	H	G	O	N		D	O	P	E			
			K	I	N		K	A	H	U	N	A
J	E	W	E	L	E	R		C	Y	N	I	C
A	X	I	S		T	U	T		D	I	N	E
M	A	N	I	A		C	H	A	R	T	E	D
S	M	O	G	G	Y		E	R	A			
			N	O	U	N		E	N	T	R	Y
J	A	V	A		M	A	O		T	H	E	A
O	P	A	L		M	P	H		S	E	E	N
G	E	T	S		Y	A	M			E	L	K

Yesterday's answer 6-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zoe Saldana, 34; Jean Dujardin, 40; Paula Abdul, 50; Kathleen Turner, 58.

Happy Birthday: You can accomplish whatever you set out to do. Take on additional responsibilities and show you're capable of doing more. Your outlook and your ability to learn quickly and put information to good use will lead to expansion. Exploring new avenues will inspire you to finish what you start and to move onward and upward. Your numbers are 5, 8, 19, 23, 28, 31, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Shake things up a bit. Incorporate something or someone from your past into your life and whatever you are pursuing. Love, travel and communication coupled with overdue change will brighten your life, bringing you added benefits. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Trust in what you know, not whom you know. Get your facts straight and oppose anyone trying to take advantage of your skills, services or talents. Don't let anger lead to problems with a coworker or inhibit your ability to advance. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let your emotions spin out of control. Arguments are likely to escalate into an irreversible situation. Be honest with yourself and others regarding what you can do and who you are. Too much of anything will lead to trouble. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Rethink how you want to handle a sensitive situation. What you envision as workable is likely to fall short of your expectations. Complaining will make you look bad. Avoid getting involved in gossip or other people's problems. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't get sloppy when it comes to personal finance. Being overly generous may bring you compliments and boost your ego, but it will deflate your bankbook. You can do for others without spending money. Offer suggestions or hands-on help, not cash. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Instability will plague you professionally or personally. Protect your position and status, and focus on the changes you need to make to remain current and technologically up-to-date. Precision and practicality will lead to a financial opportunity. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Take on a challenge. Participate and enjoy the competition and what you can gain from being involved. Love is on the rise and will enhance your personal life and your future lifestyle. Travel and socialize. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Handle your money creatively. Do what it takes to invest in your talent, your skills and your future. An interesting plan that can be launched from your home will succeed, as long as you stay within your budget. A physical change will pay off. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Size up your situation. Take an honest look at what you have created and what you must do to finish what you started. Love is in the stars, and partnerships will pay off due to the changes they bring about personally and professionally. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Deal with colleagues and superiors very carefully. An impulsive judgment call can be costly. A wait-and-see approach, along with protecting your possessions, assets and position, should be your prime concern. Listen and learn, and rely on experience. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): An interesting proposal can change your life if you jump at the chance to participate. Making changes to your home will add to your efficiency when it comes to turning one of your ideas into a prosperous venture. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Keep your mind focused on your goals and what's expected of you. Stick to basics and keep things simple. Overdoing in any area of your life will throw your timing off. Less of everything will be beneficial in the end. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are inquisitive and responsible, eager to try new things.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8	3		1	4			
6						8		
7			8		9		3	
		7				2		4
5				3				6
1		2				3		
	5		7		2			1
		8						7
			6	4		5	8	

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	1	7	3	9	2	4	8
3	7	2	4	1	8	5	6	9
8	9	4	2	6	5	1	3	7
4	6	8	3	9	2	7	5	1
5	1	3	8	4	7	6	9	2
7	2	9	1	5	6	3	8	4
2	8	5	9	7	3	4	1	6
1	3	7	6	8	4	9	2	5
9	4	6	5	2	1	8	7	3

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

DONNA SUMMER (1948-2012) **Solution: 8 letters**

D	K	Ⓟ	R	D	W	A	L	K	A	W	A	Y	H	T
A	L	L	Ⓐ	E	O	U	R	A	D	I	O	O	S	F
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I	Q	U	F	R	G	V	I	F	H	E	A	V	E	N
R	S	N	O	Y	A	R	C	A	R	R	Y	O	N	Y

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Yesterday's Answer: Slices

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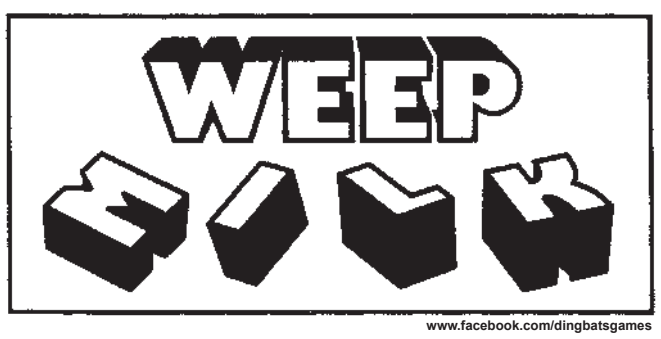

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James scores 29, Heat rally past Thunder

MIAMI (AP)—It's there every day for LeBron James and the Heat - the sting of last year's NBA Finals loss.

Two more wins and it will be a distant memory.

James had 29 points and 14 rebounds, and the Miami Heat took a 2-1 lead in the NBA Finals with a 91-85 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Sunday night. Dwyane Wade had 25 points, seven rebounds and seven assists for the Heat, who were in this same position through three games last year, then didn't win again against the Dallas Mavericks.

"We carry that pain with us," the Heat's Chris Bosh said. "We think about it every day and that really helps us to succeed in this series."

James' poor performance was part of the problem then, but he seems on top of his game this time. His 3-pointer sent the Heat to the fourth quarter with the lead, and he scored five straight Miami points when the Heat were building just enough cushion to hold off another late flurry by the Thunder.

"Just trying to make plays," James said. "I told you guys, last year I didn't make enough game-changing plays, and that's what I kind of pride myself on. I didn't do that last year in the finals. I'm just trying to make game-changing plays, and whatever it takes for our team to win, just trying to step up in key moments and be there for my teammates."

Game 4 is Tuesday night.

Kevin Durant had 25 points for the Thunder, but picked up his fourth foul in the third quarter and had to go to the bench when they had seemed to have control of the game.

"It was frustrating," Durant said. "Of course we had a good lead and they came back and made some shots. We fouled shooters on the 3-point line twice. It's a tough break for us, man. You know, I hate sitting on the bench, especially with fouls."

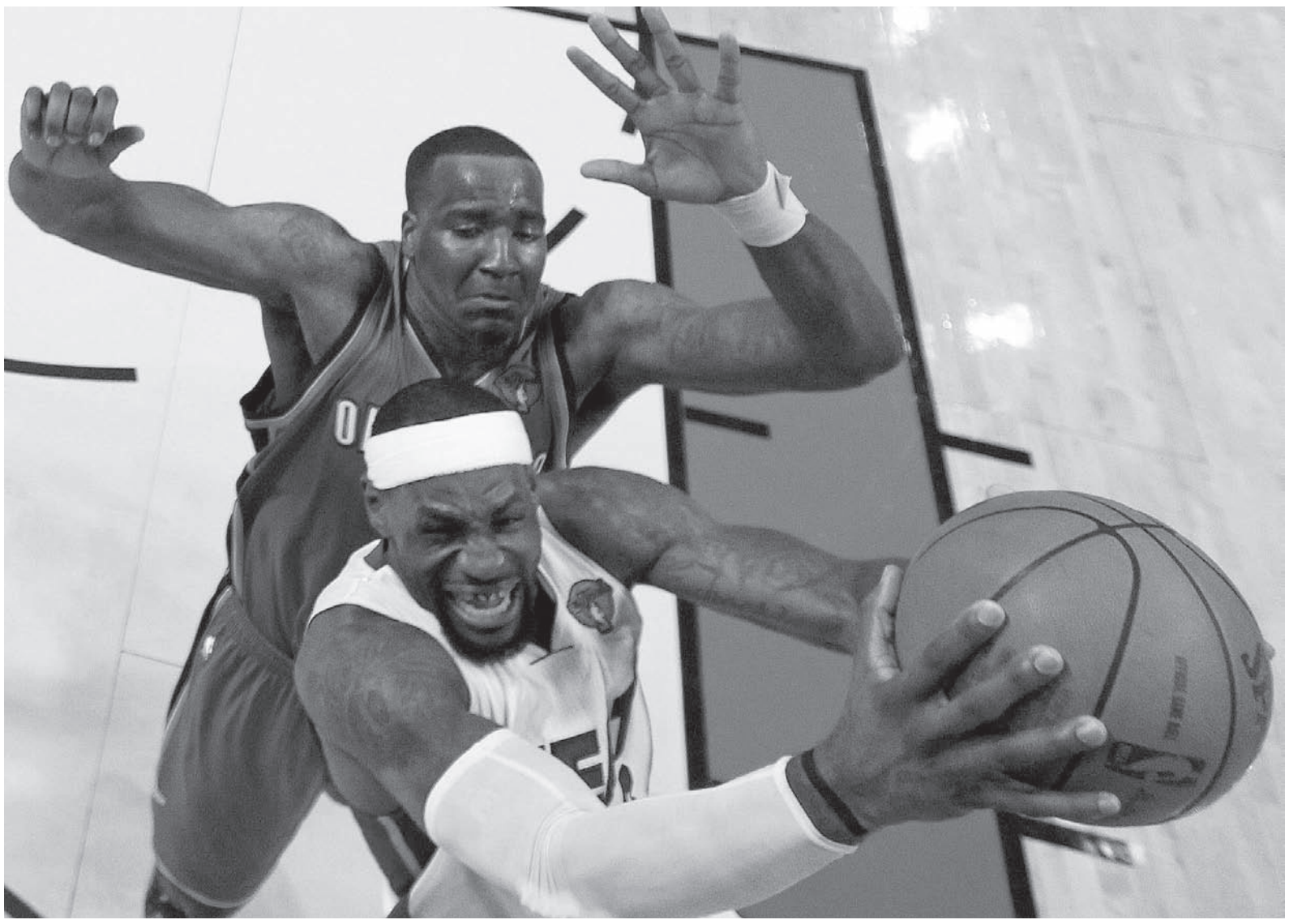
The Heat survived their own fourth-quarter sloppiness - nine turnovers - by getting enough big plays from their Big Three.

James scored 30 and 32 points in the first two games, his two best finals performances. He fell just shy of another 30-point effort but reached his 20 points for the 20th time this postseason, two shy of Wade's franchise record set in 2006.

Gone is the player who seemed so tentative down the stretch last year in his second finals failure. He's constantly on the attack now, all while defending Durant in key situations.

"He was great. He's been great for us all playoffs," Heat forward Udonis Haslem said. "I don't know if he looks up at the clock or score sheet, but he knows when we need him to make big plays and come through for us, and he comes through."

Bosh had 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Heat, who can win a second title by winning the next two games at home. That's what they did in 2006, one of just two home teams to sweep the middle three games in the 2-3-2 format.



AP

Miami Heat small forward LeBron James (6) shoots against Oklahoma City Thunder center Kendrick Perkins during the second half at Game 3 of the NBA Finals basketball series, Sunday, June 17, 2012, in Miami. The Heat won, 91-85.

They seemed out of it when Oklahoma City opened a 10-point lead midway through the third. But then Durant picked up his fourth foul with 5:41 left on Wade's baseline drive, though there appeared to be little or no contact. Thunder coach Scott Brooks decided to sit Russell Westbrook with him, and the Heat charged into the lead by the end of the period.

Westbrook looked angry going to the bench, but denied any frustration afterward.

"Nah, man. I mean, coach's decision," Westbrook said. "Got to live with it."

The Thunder grabbed their last lead at 77-76 on James Harden's basket with 7:32 left. James answered with two free throws about 20 seconds later, and the teams would trade turnovers and stops over the next couple of tense minutes.

Wade then converted a three-point play, and another minute went by before James powered to the basket, Durant trying to get in position to draw a charge but watching helplessly as he picked up his fifth foul. James made the free throw for an 84-77 advantage with 3:47 to play.

After another basket by James, the Thunder had one last burst - haven't they always in this series? - ripping off six straight points to get within one before Bosh made a pair of free throws with 1:19 to play. Durant missed badly on a wild shot attempt, and the Thunder missed another chance when Westbrook was off from behind the arc. James hit a free throw for a four-point lead with 16 seconds to go and Wade added two to close it out.

"Last year I don't know if we was experienced enough as a unit to deal with what came at us," Wade said. "I just feel like we understand the situations more and we can deal with it better."

The Thunder were just 4 of 18 on 3-pointers and hit only 15 of 24 free throws, unusually awful numbers for one of the league's best offensive teams. Harden, the Sixth Man of the Year, shot 2 of 10 for his nine points. Westbrook finished with 19 points.

After a split of the first two games, the series made its way from Oklahoma City, where fans in blue shirts filled every seat, to Miami, where white shirts hung on empty chairs just minutes before the tip. The late arrivals in Oklahoma City had been the Thunder players, who fell into big early deficits and acknowledged some first-time finals jitters in Game 1. Brooks said he heard the cries to change his starting lineup but said it never crossed his mind.

The Thunder quickly fell behind 10-4 in this one after spotting the Heat a 13-point lead in Game 1 and getting clubbed into an 18-2 hole in the opening minutes of Game 2. They didn't let things get any worse this time, playing the Heat even from there and trailing 26-20 after one. James, Wade and Bosh combined for Miami's first 18 points.

James and Wade had some dazzling drives in the second and Shane Battier got free for a pair of 3-pointers in the final 2 minutes, but the Thunder stayed with them the entire way, briefly holding a three-point lead. Westbrook's 3-pointer with 2.3 seconds left cut Miami's lead to 47-46.

Disappointing weekend dooms Woods in Open

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Tiger Woods tried his best to put a positive spin on things, even when there was nothing positive about his weekend.

Another opportunity lost. Another chance to win a major championship gone.

For two rounds, Woods seemed to be in command in the U.S. Open. Then came a weekend of frustration that ran his winless streak in major championships to four years and raised even more questions about his ability to win the titles he used to take for granted.

He came into the final round Sunday still contending he had a chance at Olympic Club. Then he got off to a bogey-bogey-double bogey start that took away any chance of him mounting a charge up the leaderboard.

"There's a lot of positives this week. Hit the ball really well," Woods said. "Unfortunately, I just didn't have the speed of the greens until today."

Woods made some birdies coming in, but by then it was too late. He finished with a 3-over 73 that left him six shots back of winner Webb Simpson in a tournament Woods seemed poised to win after two rounds.

Tied for the lead going into the weekend, his game fell apart with a series of poor drives, chunked shots and putts that didn't come close to the hole. He was 8-over-par for the weekend, even while insisting that he did everything mostly right.

"I hit the ball very well the first two days and, as I said yesterday, I was just a fraction off just a couple yards here and there and that's all it takes," Woods said. "I had so many balls that landed in the fairway that went into the rough."

Keeping the ball in the fairway was a challenge for all players at Olympic, where sidehill spins often sent balls into the deep grass. Woods hit 33 of 56 fairways on the week, but also had 123 putts as he struggled on the greens.

He was 1 under and confident of his chances as he teed off in the third round tied for the lead with Jim Furyk and David Toms, but a fat 75 on Saturday was his undoing.

Woods said his much-discussed swing changes worked well and that he was happy for the most part with how he hit it all week. His biggest problem on the weekend, he said, were distances that left him between clubs and shots that went into the rough despite being only a few shots off.

"I'm excited about the consistency of it," Woods said. "How well I hit the ball all week, really. I didn't really miss it that badly this week. The misses were just a fraction off, which is great. That's what we want to have happen. And this golf course is just so demanding that a fraction off you pay a price."

Though Woods showed signs of being able to contend and win a major championship again, he has not won one since taking the U.S. Open in a playoff with Rocco Mediate at Torrey Pines in 2008. Since then, he has gone through surgeries, scandal and a rebuilding of his swing that he keeps insisting is coming along fine.

Woods remains stuck at the age of 36 with 14 major titles, behind the record of 18 held by Jack Nicklaus that he covets so much.

He finished on somewhat of positive note, going 3 under in his last 12 holes after his early blowup. But instead of contending on Sunday in a major, he played far ahead of the leaders and was never able to mount any kind of charge once things started going bad.

Asked if he felt like this was a good opportunity that got away, Woods said that could be said about a lot of tournaments. When it was pointed out that this was a U.S. Open and the majors only come around four times a year, he stuck to his script.

"Finished close in major championships before, so I had a chance this week and I'll get after it in another week in (Washington) D.C.," he said

Ortiz, Kalish lead Red Sox past Cubs, 7-4

CHICAGO (AP)—David Ortiz homered and Ryan Kalish had a tiebreaking RBI single to lead the Red Sox to a 7-4 victory.

Kalish, recalled from Triple-A Pawtucket before the game also scored on Daniel Nanva's squeeze bunt to cap Boston's three-run seventh inning that gave the Red Sox a 6-3 lead.

Matt Albers (2-0) pitched one inning to pick up the win.

The Cubs loaded the bases against Alfredo Aceves in the ninth, but after David DeJesus hit a sacrifice fly to center, Reed Johnson struck out and Darwin Barney hit a popup to third baseman Nick Punto to end the game.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Ryan Kalish, right, celebrates with third base coach Jerry Royster during the seventh inning of an interleague baseball game against the Chicago Cubs in Chicago, Sunday, June 17, 2012.

Yankees 4, Nationals 1

In Washington, Ivan Nova pitched effectively into the eighth inning to win his fifth straight start and Curtis Granderson and Robinson Cano hit solo homers as the New York Yankees beat the Washington Nationals 4-1 Sunday for their ninth consecutive victory

Orioles 2, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Wei-Yin Chen combined with four relievers on a seven-hitter and Baltimore continued its success in interleague play by beating Atlanta.

The Braves, who have lost six of seven, were shut out in consecutive games for the first time since June 5-6, 2009.

Rays 3, Marlins 0

In St. Petersburg, Alex Cobb pitched two-hit ball for seven innings and B.J. Upton hit a leadoff homer to lead Tampa Bay over Miami.

Cobb (3-3), who lost his previous three starts, struck out a career-high 10 and walked only one.

Tigers 5, Rockies 0

In Detroit, Max Scherzer (6-4) struck out 12 in eight dominant innings, rookie Quintin Berry had a career-high five hits and Detroit beat the staggering Colorado Rockies.

Prince Fielder and Miguel Cabrera each had an RBI double.

Pirates 9, Indians 5

In Cleveland, Pedro Alvarez drove in a career-high six runs with his second two-homer game in two days, powering Pittsburgh past the Cleveland Indians.

Alvarez hit three-run homers in the fourth and fifth innings for his fourth career multihomer game.

Blue Jays 6, Phillies 2

In Toronto, Colby Rasmus hit a two-run homer, Brett Cecil won for the first time in almost a year and Toronto completed a three-game sweep of skidding Philadelphia.

Rasmus went 3 for 4 with three RBIs. He also scored twice and came within a triple of the cycle.

Angels 2, Diamondbacks 0

In Anaheim, Garrett Richards pitched four-hit ball into the ninth inning of his sixth career start, Albert Pujols homered and made two stellar defensive plays and the Angels beat Arizona for their 18th win in 24 games.

Twins 5, Brewers 4, 15 innings

In Minneapolis, Denard Span had an RBI single with two outs in the 15th inning and the Twins rallied to beat Milwaukee in the longest game played at 2Ω-year-old Target Field.

Anthony Swarzak (1-4) worked a perfect 15th for the win in a game that lasted 4 hours, 50 minutes.

Mariners 2, Giants 1

In Seattle, Justin Smoak's one-out single in the bottom of the ninth scored pinch-runner Munenori Kawasaki from second when the throw home hit Kawasaki in the back, giving the Mariners a win over San Francisco.

Sergio Romo (2-1) allowed back-to-back singles to open the ninth before being replaced.

Dodgers 2, White Sox 1, 10 innings

In Los Angeles, Juan Rivera tied the score in the ninth with a sacrifice fly three innings after the Dodgers had one taken away on an appeal play, and Dee Gordon singled home the winning run in the 10th to give Los Angeles a victory.

Royals 5, Cardinals 3, 15 innings

In St. Louis, Yuniesky Betancourt hit a two-run homer with two outs in the 15th inning, lifting Kansas City over the Cardinals.

Betancourt had put the Royals ahead in the 14th with an RBI double but closer Jonathan Broxton (1-1) failed to hold the lead.

Rangers 9, Astros 3

In Arlington, Ian Kinsler had a bases-clearing triple and Adrian Beltre hit a two-run homer in a seven-run sixth inning, lifting the Rangers to a victory over the Astros.

Colby Lewis (6-5) gave up three hits and walked one while striking out 10 in seven innings to win his second straight decision.

Padres 2, Athletics 1

In Oakland, Clayton Richard pitched into the eighth inning for his second consecutive win and San Diego beat the Athletics to avoid a three-game sweep.

Everth Cabrera scored on a groundout in the second and the Padres tacked on an insurance run in the ninth.

Reds 3, Mets 1

In New York, Brandon Phillips hit a tiebreaking single and made a between-the-legs flip to start a flashy double play, leading Johnny Cueto and Cincinnati over the New York Mets for its sixth straight win.

The NL Central leaders completed their first three-game sweep in New York since 2001.

Tomlinson to call it quits after 11 NFL seasons

SAN DIEGO (AP) LaDainian Tomlinson's brilliant NFL career will officially end when he ceremoniously rejoins the San Diego Chargers for a day.

The Chargers said Sunday that Tomlinson, who was the NFL MVP in 2006 with San Diego and is the fifth-leading rusher in league history, will re-sign with the team on Monday and then announce his retirement.

Tomlinson was drafted in the first round by San Diego in 2001 and became one of the biggest stars in team history, helping revive the Chargers after the devastating Ryan Leaf years and turning them into a force in the AFC West. He spent the first nine years of his career in San Diego. He played the last two seasons with the New York Jets.

Tomlinson won the MVP in '06, when he set NFL single-season records with 31 touchdowns, including 28 rushing, and 186 points. He ran for a career-high 1,815 yards that year, giving him the first of two straight league rushing titles.

Tomlinson finishes his career with 13,684 yards and 145 touchdowns.

Tomlinson spoke at the public memorial service for Junior Seau on May 11, drawing the biggest cheers of the night.

Perhaps his most memorable moment with the Chargers came on Dec. 10, 2006, when he swept into the end zone late in a game against the Denver Broncos for his third touchdown of the afternoon to break Shaun Alexander's year-old record of 28 touchdowns.

His linemen hoisted him onto their shoulders and carried him toward the sideline, with Tomlinson holding the ball high in his right hand and waving his left index finger, while the fans chanted ''L.T.! L.T.!'' and ''MVP! MVP!''

When the Chargers released him in February 2010, quarterback Philip Rivers said: ''I had the best view in the house on some of those awesome runs he made.''

Tomlinson had said recently that he might continue his career if the right opportunity was available. Some fans hoped the Chargers would bring back Tomlinson as a third-down back, but that appeared impossible as long as general manager A.J. Smith was in control.

Tomlinson had a less-than-smooth separation from the Chargers. The slashing, dazzling runs came less frequently and Tomlinson was slowing down because of injuries and age. He became less and less the face of the franchise as his role was reduced in a pass-happy offense. The Chargers would have been on the hook for a $2 million roster bonus, along with a $5 million salary.

Days after his release from the Chargers, Tomlinson held a tearful news conference at the suburban country club where he and his wife lived.

L.T. also had a public tiff with Smith.

A year before the Chargers released Tomlinson, Smith came under fire for mocking a statement Tomlinson made about wanting to stay in San Diego.

Tomlinson's squeaky-clean image took a hit during the AFC championship game loss at New England in January 2008. Forced out early with a sprained knee, Tomlinson watched glumly from the sideline, huddled in a parka and his face hidden behind the tinted visor on his helmet.

WEBB

From Page 28

of champions" because proven major winners who were poised to win the U.S. Open—Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Tom Watson and Payne Stewart—all lost out to the underdog.

Perhaps it was only fitting that the 25-year-old Simpson went to Wake Forest on an Arnold Palmer scholarship.

"Arnold has been so good to me," Simpson said. "Just the other day, I read that story and thought about it. He's meant so much to me and Wake Forest. Hopefully, I can get a little back for him and make him smile."

No one was beaming like Simpson, who followed a breakthrough year on the PGA Tour with his first major.

No one was more disgusted than Furyk, in control for so much of the final round until he snap-hooked his tee shot on the par-5 16th hole to fall out of the lead for the first time all day, and was unable to get it back. Needing a birdie on the final hole, he hit into the bunker. He crouched and clamped his teeth onto the shaft of his wedge. Furyk made bogey on the final hole and closed with a 74, a final round without a single birdie.

McDowell, who made four bogeys on the front nine, at least gave himself a chance with a 20-foot birdie putt on the 17th and a shot into the 18th that had him sprinting up the hill to see what kind of chance he had. The putt stayed left of the hole the entire way, and he had to settle for a 73.

McDowell shared second place with Michael Thompson, who closed with a 67 and waited two hours to see if it would be good enough.

Tiger Woods, starting five shots behind, played the first six holes in 6-over par and was never a factor. He shot 73 and finished six strokes back.

Furyk was fuming, mostly at himself, for blowing a chance at his second U.S. Open title. He also was surprised that the USGA moved the tee up 100 yards on the 16th hole to play 569 yards. It was reachable in two shots for some players, though the shape of the hole featured a sharp turn to the left.

"There's no way when we play our practice rounds you're going to hit a shot from a tee 100 yards up unless someone tells you," Furyk said. "But the rest of the field had that same shot to hit today, and I'm pretty sure no one hit as (bad) a shot as I did. I have no one to blame but myself.

"I was tied for the lead, sitting on the 16th tee. I've got wedges in my hand, or reachable par 5s, on the way in and one birdie wins the golf tournament. I'm definitely frustrated."

But he gave Simpson his due.

Of the last 18 players to tee off in the final round, Simpson was the only one to break par. That didn't seem likely when Simpson was six shots behind as he headed to the sixth hole, the toughest at Olympic. That's where he started his big run.

His 7-iron landed in the rough and rolled 5 feet away for birdie. He made birdie on the next two holes, including a 15-footer on the par-3 eighth. And his wedge into the 10th settled 3 feet away, putting him in the mix for the rest of the day.

"It was a cool day," Simpson said. "I had a peace all day. I knew it was a tough golf course. I probably prayed more the last three holes than I ever did in my life."

Simpson's shot from the rough on the 18th hole went just right of the green and disappeared into a hole, a circle of dirt about the size of a sprinkler cap. With a clump of grass behind the ball, he had a bold stroke for such a nervy shot and it came out perfectly, rolling 3 feet by the hole for his much-needed par.

Then, it was time to wait.

It was the third time in the last seven years that no one broke par in the U.S. Open. On all three occasions, the winner was in the locker room when the tournament ended.

While Furyk will be haunted by his finish, McDowell can look back at his start—four bogeys on the front nine—and his inability to find fairways. Even on the last hole, his tee shot tumbled into the first cut of rough and kept him from being able to spin the ball closer.

"There's a mixture of emotions inside me right now—disappointment, deflation, pride," he said. "But mostly just frustration, just because I hit three fairways today. That's the U.S. Open. You're not supposed to do that. You're supposed to hit it in some fairways. And that was the key today for me."

Beau Hossler, the 17-year-old who started only four shots behind, disappeared quickly and closed with a 76. He showed up at Olympic hopeful only of making the cut, then being low amateur, then perhaps winning. He had to settle for the first one. A double bogey on the last hole meant Jordan Spieth (70) was low amateur.

Woods has never won a major when trailing going into the last round, and he kept that streak going.

Starting with a tee shot buried in the rough just off the first fairway, he bogeyed the opening two holes and chopped up the par-3 third hole for a double bogey. His name was removed from the board before the leaders even stepped onto the first tee. He played that infamous six-hole start in 6 over. And that 69-70 start that gave him a share of the lead going into the weekend felt like a distant memory.

"I was just a touch off," Woods said of his 75-73 weekend. "But I was still in the ball game. Today I just got off to a horrific start, and just never got it going early. And unfortunately, I put myself out of it."

MISSION

From Page 28

in the NPQ. We took several young players in Guam and they proved that they can play great games in tough tournaments like the NPQ. Our team simply dominated the competition," an elated Race said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

"I watched our very first game last Monday (June 11) with the young Grace Choi battling Guam's Laurel Hughes. She was down in the first set, 0-3, but came back and won, 6-3, 6-4. After that game, I knew it will be a very great NPQ performance for our team," Race added.

Choi was one of the 31 players the CNMI sent to Guam for the qualifier that also featured players from Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia. Together, the CNMI bets played 187 matches, won 158 and lost only 29 for an impressive winning percentage of 84 percent. The host, which fielded 29 players, had a 43 percent winning percentage, posting 74 victories against 98 losses. FSM, which had 10 representatives, was third in the ranking with its 40 percent (26 games won and 37 lost), while Palau, which had 7 players, won 19 games and dropped 32 for a 37 percent winning percentage.

In the individual rankings, Thea Minor and Christian Miller topped the U18 division, Mikayla Lopez ruled the girls U15, and Michael Ren and Carol Lee reigned supreme in the U12 category. The CNMI missed the boys U15 crown after Chris Cajigan lost to Guam's Derek Okuhama.

"I saved my hair. It was so close," said Race, who vowed to have his hair shaved if his wards sweep the division titles.

"Michael, Carol, and Thea dominated their division, while Christian played the best game of his life," he added.

Lee recorded four shutout wins and she, Minor, Ren, and Mikayla Lopez did not drop a single set in the entire tournament and allowed their respective foes to no more than three points per set.

The four perfect-record holder, Miller, Cajigan, Luther Lizama, Melody Johnson, Isabel Heras, and Negahr Rastguiy were selected to the North Pacific Team that will compete in the 2012 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji in August. The Fiji-based Tammy Ackerman is the 11th CNMI netter to make the team, as she is given a wild card.

North Pacific Team slots were given to the Top 4 finishers in the U12 and U14 age groups and Top 2 in U18 and several other CNMI players made it to the Final Four, but only two berths are allowed per nation.

In the boys U18 division, Rafael Jones placed No. 3, while Jake Lee and Amami Sakano finished fourth and fifth, respectively. In the girls division, Theecel Minor was ranked third, while Alina Ishikawa ended up at No. 6.

In the boys U15, Tommy Choi placed fourth, followed by Seiya Eda (No.5), Moris Villanueva (No.8), Dylan Ackerman (No.9) and Colin Ramsey (No. 11). In the girls division, Emily Jones rounded out the Top 4.

In the girls U12, the CNMI took the Top 5 finishes with Heras, Julia Ishikawa, Elizaveta Atalig, and Ami Tsukagoshi placing behind Carol Lee. Mimi Sakano was seventh, followed by Malika Miyawaki and Grace Choi. In the boys division, Lizama was ranked second, Vince Cepeda came in at No. 7, Robert Schorr was at No. 9, Michael Jones finished at No. 19, and Ken Song placed at No. 14.

Meanwhile, despite the CNMI's impressive run in the NPQ, Race said they should not rest on their laurels, as Guam is getting better and Palau and FSM are doing their best to catch up with the Commonwealth.

"We have to continue working hard and be dedicated during our training sessions," Race said.

VISITING

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seconds behind Mancao and ahead of more than 30 male runners.

Villafria said by the time he was done with the registration, the lead pack was already near the traffic lights in front of Bank of Guam.

In the women's division, Mieko Carey topped the field with a time of 32:53. Completing the Top 3 were Amalia Harris (35:41) and Hinumi Haniguchi (36:17).

Over 80 runners joined the weekend race that started and ended at the DFS entrance and brought participants to as far the World War II Tanks at Quartermaster Road. The event also doubled as a fundraiser for Hand in Hand in Haiti, a project that DFS supports and aims to build educational facility for children in the Caribbean country that was hit by a catastrophic earthquake in 2010.

KFC/TACO

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ranan and Joon Lee chipped in 18 and 12, respectively.

KFC outscored Sinigang in each of the first three quarters and then traded baskets with its foe in the fourth and final period to secure the 7-point win. KFC never trailed, as it nailed at least 18 points in each of the four frames.

Deleon Guerrero drained 10 of his total markers in the opening canto, while Maranan contributed 6 to give KFC a 19-11 advantage. Sinigang fell behind early as Prince Factor almost had a one-man show in the first period, scoring 6 of their total output.

Factor continued to lead Sinigang in the second canto, while Deleon Guerrero went cold. However, Lee filled the void Guerrero left on KFC's offense in the second period, nailing 8 points, while Maranan remained steady on offense, ending the quarter with a triple for their 37-28 halftime led.

The second half was the same story with Factor almost single handedly carrying Sinigang on his shoulder, while Deleon and Maranan alternately providing the needed points for KFC to keep the win.

Factor led Sinigang's losing cause with his 30 points.

Docomo 66, LD Prime 53

In the second game, Docomo barged into the win column after a 0-3 start, following a victory over LD Prime (1-3).

A 24-8 start gave Docomo enough cushion en route to the 13-point win.

Six different players contributed in Docomo's good start with four of them scoring at least two baskets each.

In contrast, only Richard Perez and JK Quemado made it into the scoreboard for LD Prime in the first period and the team was held to three field goals. LD Prime never recovered from the early deficit and had its best offensive showing only in the fourth period, 14-9, when the win was already in the bag for Docomo.

Jose Tudela led Docomo's balance offense with his 14 points, while his five other teammates logged at least six points apiece, while three others combined for 12 more markers.

David Magtuloy and John Jugos had 15 and 12, respectively, for LD Prime and the rest of the team got garbage points.

First Game

KFC 75 – Deleon Guerrero 21, Maranan 18, Lee 12, Mendiola 8, Tinio 4, Salas 4, Tumbaga 2, Sevilla 2, Francisco 2.

Sinigang 68 – Factor 30, Moran 10, Jeri. Habijan 10, Aguilar 8, Lapuz 8, Gotengco 4, Ano 3, Mojica 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-11, 37-28, 57-47, 75-68.

Second Game

Docomo 66 – Tudela 14, Lazardo 8, Tengco 8, Gomez 7, Sanciangco 7, Bautista 6, Cultura 4, Enriquez 4, Achas 4.

LD Prime 53 – Magtuloy 15, Jugos 12, J. Quemado 8, Abaygar 7, Perez 5, S. Quemado 4, Pena 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-8, 39-19, 57-39, 66-53.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	40	25	.615	_
Baltimore	39	27	.591	1 1/2
Tampa Bay	37	29	.561	3 1/2
Toronto	34	32	.515	6 1/2
Boston	33	33	.500	7 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	35	31	.530	_
Cleveland	33	32	.508	1 1/2
Detroit	32	34	.485	3
Kansas City	29	35	.453	5
Minnesota	26	39	.400	8 1/2

West Division

Texas	40	27	.597	_
Los Angeles	36	31	.537	4
Oakland	31	36	.463	9
Seattle	29	39	.426	11 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	38	26	.594	_
Atlanta	35	31	.530	4
New York	35	32	.522	4 1/2
Miami	33	33	.500	6
Philadelphia	31	37	.456	9

Central Division

Cincinnati	38	27	.585	_
Pittsburgh	34	31	.523	4
St. Louis	34	33	.507	5
Milwaukee	30	36	.455	8 1/2
Houston	27	39	.409	11 1/2
Chicago	22	44	.333	16 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	42	25	.627	_
San Francisco	37	30	.552	5
Arizona	32	34	.485	9 1/2
Colorado	25	40	.385	16
San Diego	24	43	.358	18

US OPEN SCORES

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Scores Sunday from the U.S. Open, played at the 7,170-yard, par-70 Olympic Club.

FINAL ROUND

Webb Simpson	72-73-68-68—281
Michael Thompson	66-75-74-67—282
Graeme McDowell	69-72-68-73—282
David Toms	69-70-76-68—283
Padraig Harrington	74-70-71-68—283
John Peterson	71-70-72-70—283
Jason Dufner	72-71-70-70—283
Jim Furyk	70-69-70-74—283
Ernie Els	75-69-68-72—284
Casey Wittenberg	71-77-67-70—285
Retief Goosen	75-70-69-71—285
John Senden	72-73-68-72—285
Kevin Chappell	74-71-68-72—285
Lee Westwood	73-72-67-73—285
K.J. Choi	73-70-74-69—286
Steve Stricker	76-68-73-69—286
Adam Scott	76-70-70-70—286
Aaron Watkins	72-71-72-71—286
Martin Kaymer	74-71-69-72—286
Fredrik Jacobson	72-71-68-75—286
Nick Watney	69-75-73-70—287
a-Jordan Spieth	74-74-69-70—287
Raphael Jacquelin	72-71-73-71—287
Justin Rose	69-75-71-72—287
Tiger Woods	69-70-75-73—287
Blake Adams	72-70-70-75—287
Matt Kuchar	70-73-71-74—288
Nicholas Colsaerts	72-69-71-76—288
Davis Love III	73-74-73-69—289
Alistair Presnell	70-74-75-70—289
Morgan Hoffmann	72-74-73-70—289
Francesco Molinari	71-76-72-70—289
Robert Karlsson	70-75-72-72—289
Kevin Na	74-71-71-73—289
Scott Langley	76-70-70-73—289
Charlie Wi	74-70-71-74—289
a-Beau Hossler	70-73-70-76—289
Charl Schwartzel	73-70-74-73—290
Hunter Mahan	72-71-73-74—290
Sergio Garcia	73-71-71-75—290
Zach Johnson	77-70-73-71—291
Rickie Fowler	72-76-71-72—291
a-Patrick Cantlay	76-72-71-72—291
Ian Poulter	70-75-73-73—291
Alex Cejka	78-69-70-74—291
Matteo Manassero	76-69-73-74—292
Bob Estes	74-73-71-74—292
Angel Cabrera	72-76-69-75—292
Steve LeBrun	73-75-69-75—292
a-Hunter Hamrick	77-67-71-77—292
Simon Dyson	74-74-74-71—293
Jesse Mueller	75-73-74-71—293
Nicholas Thompson	74-74-72-73—293
Hiroyuki Fujita	75-71-73-74—293
Branden Grace	71-74-73-75—293
Michael Allen	71-73-77-73—294
Jeff Curl	73-75-71-75—294
Jonathan Byrd	71-75-71-77—294
Bo Van Pelt	78-70-76-71—295
Jason Day	75-71-76-73—295
Jae-Bum Park	70-74-77-74—295
Matthew Baldwin	74-74-73-74—295
Kevin Streelman	76-72-72-75—295
Darron Stiles	75-71-73-76—295
Marc Warren	73-72-74-77—296
Phil Mickelson	76-71-71-78—296
K.T. Kim	74-72-74-77—297
Stephen Ames	74-73-79-72—298
Keegan Bradley	73-73-75-77—298
Rod Pampling	74-73-74-78—299
Jason Bohn	70-75-78-78—301
Joe Ogilvie	73-75-76-79—303

a-amateur

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

DLX STANDINGS

Bracket A

Team Pogi	4	1
DLX/Irish Spring	3	1
Mawati	2	1
Marianas Water	2	2
AD-31	2	3
8-Division	1	2
LD Prime	1	3
Docomo	1	3

Bracket B

Fastbreakers	5	0
KFC/Taco Bell	4	1
Banahaw	3	2
San Roque	2	2
R-Lyn's	1	2
Sinigang	1	3
Gualo Rai	1	3
Wushin Express	0	5

IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2012

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kim Boranah leans back for a return during her and Jexter Caranto's mixed doubles B game against Roger Vales and Babes Cielo in the IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2012 at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex.

Spectators watch Ferdie Arago returns to Andreau Galvez during the men's single A finals.

Jane Tupas returns the shuttlecock to Vic Regis and Marylyn Montano during their mixed doubles B game, while teammate Wowie Abuel looks on.

Annette Ta hits a low shot.

Jerry Tan chases the shuttlecock while teammate Shirley Kim looks on.

Jaja Samonte, left, turns to teammate Aries Cordero after the shuttlecock past her area.

Noli Santos stretches for a return near the net.

Chris Hilario leaps for a baseline return.

Vic Regis has all eyes on the shuttlecock.

Angie Ito makes a return near the baseline.

James scores 29, Heat rally past Thunder

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Ortiz, Kalish lead Red Sox past Cubs, 7-4

PAGE 25

Webb Simpson steals US Open title

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —Webb Simpson refused to think of himself as a U.S. Open champion until he sat with his nervous wife in a quiet corner of the locker room Sunday, staring in disbelief at a television as Jim Furyk and Graeme McDowell tried to catch him.

He was up against a pair of major champions. He was at The Olympic Club, where the wrong guy always wins a U.S. Open.

Simpson should have known now how this would end.

He did his part with four birdies in a five-hole stretch around the turn, and a tough par from the collar of the 18th green for a 2-under 68. It was enough to capture his first major when Furyk bogeyed two of his last three holes, and McDowell couldn't recover from a bad start and too many tee shots in the rough.

"Oh, wow," Simpson said when McDowell's 25-foot birdie putt to force a playoff stayed left of the cup

Simpson emerged from a fog-filled final round as a U.S. Open champion, and he put two more names into the graveyard of champions.

"I never really wrapped my mind around winning," said Simpson, who finished at 1-over 281 to win in only his fifth time at a major. "This place is so demanding, and so all I was really concerned about was keeping the ball in front of me and making pars."

Olympic is known as the "graveyard

See WEBB on Page 26

AP

Webb Simpson posses with the championship trophy after the U.S. Open Championship golf tournament Sunday, June 17, 2012, at The Olympic Club in San Francisco.

Visiting boxer rules Silver Streak race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

An amateur boxer from Nevada pulled off a surprise win in the 19th Annual Tom Picarro "Silver Streak" Memorial Fun Run held last Saturday.

Daniel Ramirez was the first overall finisher of the 4.2-mile race, timing in at 29:45 and beating home favorite Michael Mancao (30:11).

"It was a good run, I was with the second placer (Mancao) the whole time and then left him maybe in the last one kilometer of the race," said Ramirez, who broke away from Mancao near Mobil gas station in Garapan.

The 19-year-old boxer is on Saipan to train with Trench Tech. He has been on the island for about a week and will stay here until September.

"My training also includes running, so it was good that I was able to join this race and win it, too," said the super flyweight boxer, who was no stranger to road running.

"I competed in long distance races in Nevada and I started running since I was in grade school," added Ramirez, who holds a personal best time of 2:50:26 in marathon.

Joining Ramirez and Mancao in the Top 3 in the men's division was Ronald Villafria, who came in late for the race, but still crossed the finish line in front of the DFS Galleria entrance (Joeten Garapan traffic lights) just 45

See VISITING on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nevada's Daniel Ramirez nears the finish line of last Saturday's 19th Annual Tom Picarro "Silver Streak" Memorial Fun Run.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Adel Tumbaga, seen here trying to dribble out of trouble against a R-Lyn's defender, plays for KFC, which defeated Sinigang, 75-68, last Friday in the DLX/DL JOS caging at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Mission accomplished for jr. netters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Coach Jeff Race has all the reasons to brag about the CNMI Junior Team's campaign in the 2012 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament in Guam last week.

The Commonwealth bets won five of the six division titles, 17 made it to the Top 4, 10 claimed slots on the North Pacific Team, several players posted perfect records in the tournament, and the team logged the highest win percentage among the four participating nations.

"We had an outstanding performance

See MISSION on Page 26

Christian Miller, seen here in action during the 2012 Micronesian Junior Championships, ruled the U18 division of the 2012 North Pacific Qualifying Tournament held in Guam last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KFC/Taco Bell recovers, gains fifth win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

KFC/Taco Bell bounced back from a previous loss with a 75-68 victory over Sinigang in the first game in the 2012 DLX/DL JOS Inter-Color Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

KFC, which had its winning run snapped last week after bowing to Banahaw Restaurant, 59-62, played consistently against Sinigang (1-3) to improve to a 4-1 record and retain the No. 2 spot in Pool B behind the unbeaten Fastbreakers (5-0).

JR Deleon Guerrero top-scored for KFC with 21 points, while Herbert Ma-

See KFC/TACO on Page 26